



Iliescu calls supporters on to streets

Rioters storm TV station in Bucharest

From CATHERINE ADAMS IN BUCHAREST

THE Romanian president yesterday made an emergency appeal to his people to come out on to the streets to defend government buildings and the national television station, after the worst violence since the overthrow of Nicolae Ceausescu last year.

President Iliescu accused protesters of trying to stage a coup and urged all democratic forces "who gave their vote for freedom and stability in Romania to support the action of eliminating this fascist rebellion".

His appeal came after one person was shot dead and 33 were injured in street battles as thousands of protesters set fire to the Bucharest police headquarters and stormed the television station, which stopped broadcasting. The government headquarters in Victory Square, where the prime minister, Petre Roman, has his office, was also attacked.

The violence had erupted when a thousand riot police stormed the seven-week anti-communist demonstration in University Square at dawn. The president made his emergency appeal for support after the demonstrators had re-occupied the square in mid-afternoon, driving security forces out and setting fire to police buses, engulfing the square in thick smoke. He said: "We are facing an organised attempt to remove by force and violence the country's elected leaders" and described the hard-core of the protesters as "legionary ele-

ments", a reference to pre-second world war fascists. He called on Romanians to co-operate with the army and police to re-establish order and help to arrest extremist elements "who must be brought to justice".

State radio said troops and armoured cars had been sent to television headquarters. Pro-iliescu crowds surged on to the streets within minutes of the appeal, and alarm bells rang in factories throughout the capital calling the workers, the traditional supporters of the National Salvation Front, out on the streets. Hundreds of workers armed with iron bars and sticks arrived at the television station and started attacking the protesters occupying the building.

The riot police had given no warning before encircling University Square at dawn, dispersing the crowd of around a hundred, many sleeping in tents. Cristina Ivan, one of the 19 hunger strikers who fled, said: "They set fire to our tents and beat wildly at the demonstrators, trampling people with their boots."

A government communiqué said three hundred demonstrators were arrested. Hunger strikers were hauled from their tents outside the Intercontinental hotel, whose glass doors were smashed by police chasing protesters who fled inside.

Police beat and kicked civilians before forcing them into police vans. One man walking through the occupied area with a camera about four hours after the raid was pounced on by about twenty police.

Clashes continued as protesters attacked the police with sticks and rocks, overturning police vans and setting them on fire. Several protesters fled the fighting covered in blood.

The person who died was said to have been shot in the head by someone firing from inside the interior ministry building. Four or five shots rang out as protesters tried to use fire hoses to break in. Twenty-three of the 33 people injured were police.

At about 4 pm, some four hundred demonstrators chanting anti-government slogans and standing face to face with rows of armed police broke through police lines to re-

Belgrade protest, page 12



Iliescu: Emergency plea to city's workers



Student stampede: Young anti-government protesters storm the streets of Bucharest past an overturned police vehicle they have just set on fire

Moscow eases Vilnius blockade

From MARY DEJEVSKY
IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW appeared to have agreed last night to a partial lift of its two-month economic blockade against Lithuania and is expected to increase supplies of gas and raw materials to selected enterprises at once. It will also consider resuming deliveries of fuel for agriculture in the Baltic republic.

The decision was conveyed to Kazimiera Pruskiene, the Lithuanian prime minister, by Nikolai Ryzhkov, her Soviet counterpart, at a meeting in the Kremlin yesterday. Afterwards, Mrs Pruskiene said: "There are no doubts about the lifting of the economic blockade. This was stated quite explicitly."

She said there were two extremely sensitive points of disagreement that had not been resolved. One related to the legislation passed since the independence declaration by Lithuania, and the other to the fate of young Lithuanians who had refused to serve in the Soviet Army and deserted. On this point, however, she said she now believed there was no question of Moscow trying to seize unwilling recruits.

In general, Mrs Pruskiene said there now appeared to be greater trust between Moscow and Lithuania and she quoted Mr Ryzhkov as saying that their talks had been the beginning of a specific dialogue on the question of future negotiations. Moscow has consistently avoided using the word negotiations for talks between itself and rebel republics.

The meeting, which showed Mrs Pruskiene being treated as a bona fide republic prime minister by the Soviet authorities for the first time, had been postponed from Monday.

• WASHINGTON: President Bush yesterday applauded President Gorbachev for meeting the leaders of the three Baltic republics on Tuesday and said he hoped that it would be the "first step in a dialogue which will lead to the self-determination that we strongly support" (Martin Fletcher writes). Mr Bush declared: "I think it was good news."

Party tasse, page 12

Labour moves toward bringing back rates

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR is moving towards a general election commitment to bring back the rates within a year of coming to office.

Senior shadow cabinet sources believe the poll tax review team under Bryan Gould is poised to abandon the original plan to introduce a tax based on the capital value of homes. Instead, they say, Labour could announce that a reformed and fairer system of the rates, using the rental value of properties, could be in place within a year of the election.

Members of Mr Gould's team denied yesterday that capital valuation, which is favoured by many local government experts, had been dropped. It remains one of the only two valuation options being considered, the other being rateable values. But sources close to the party's treasury team, led by John Smith, the shadow chancellor, believe that for strong political reasons the capital valuation option will be ditched.

Divisions remain over how Labour will meet its commitment to make its alternative reflect ability to pay. The

treasury team, backed by others in the shadow cabinet, is said strongly to favour a wider and more generous system of rebates than existed under the rates. Mr Gould, the shadow environment secretary, is still looking at what he regards as a more comprehensive system, using people's income to measure their ability to pay.

Senior shadow cabinet members are reported to have been saying privately that the original favoured option of a



capital value property tax, adjusted according to income, would be a disaster. They have argued that such an arrangement, as with the abandoned plan for a property tax combined with a local income tax, would be perceived as a double charge.

The plan now strongly favoured by the treasury team, and being considered by Mr Gould, is for rateable values again to be used as the basis for charging for local government services. If that option were chosen, the system would be made fairer by regular revaluations based on rental values for similar types of property across given areas.

According to senior party sources, if Labour goes for the rates it would want to reinstate the system as soon as possible, before people become familiar with the unpopular poll tax. One of the disadvantages of the original plan, according to Labour sources, was that it might take several years to introduce, during which time Labour would have to operate the

Continued on page 24, col 7

Election alert, page 8

Shares and £ move up

By RODNEY LORD
ECONOMICS EDITOR

REVISED figures showing a smaller deficit on the balance of payments helped by continuing anticipation of Britain's full membership of the European monetary system kept shares and the pound moving up yesterday. The FTSE 100 index broke through 2400 to close up 34.7 at 2405.4 and the pound closed at its strongest since last October up 0.3 at 90.6 on the effective rate index.

The Bank of England was forced to signal that there would be no change in interest rates as market rates, encouraged by the strength of sterling, fell.

New estimates of the balance of payments produced by the Central Statistical Office show a surplus on invisible earnings in the final quarter of last year rather than a deficit as originally thought. This has helped to bring the current account deficit for last year down below £20 billion from the original estimate of £20.7 billion to £19.1 billion.

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Stock market, page 29

INSIDE

Protests over Young's job

The appointment of the former trade and industry secretary Lord Young of Graffham as executive chairman of Cable and Wireless was criticised by the Labour party as "privatisation sleaze" yesterday.

The announcement that Lord Young is to join the international communications group brought calls for regulations governing the appointment of former ministers..... Page 24

Obituaries, page 16

Peers' deaths

Lord O'Neill of the Maine, prime minister of Northern Ireland from 1963 to 1969, has died at the age of 75..... Page 2

Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede, Labour's chief whip in the Lords, also died yesterday.

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Rail-link fears

The consortium bidding to build the Channel tunnel high-speed rail-link faces collapse if the prime minister decides against it today..... Page 2

Algerian vote

The Islamic Salvation Front appears to have won Algeria's first multi-party local elections, bringing an Islamic state in Algeria a step closer..... Page 10

Seabed science

The last touches are being put to a submarine designed to reveal the underwater life of the Swiss lakes to tourists.

Science and Technology, pages 33-36

Sunderland boost

Sunderland will be promoted to the first division and Tranmere Rovers to the second if Swindon Town's appeal against demotion to the third division fails..... Page 48

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Reforms delayed to save Ryzhkov

From MARY DEJEVSKY
IN MOSCOW

THE Soviet government's economic reform programme, which was designed to set the country on the road to a "regulated market economy", was yesterday approved by the Soviet parliament, the Supreme Soviet, but only as a statement of intention.

Its main practical proposals, including the steep price rises for bread and basic food which brought panic buying last month, have been postponed. The government has now been instructed to formulate more specific plans and legislation for discussion in the autumn.

The decision appears to be a face-saving compromise which will allow the government and the prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, to remain in office, while giving President Gorbachev more room to take economic decisions on

Party tasse, page 12

Jehovah's Witness parents snatch sick baby

By LIN JENKINS

A TWO-year-old girl with leukaemia who doctors say will die without a blood transfusion was made a ward of court yesterday after her parents had taken her from the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street. The girl is believed to be in a hospital in Cyprus.

The transfusion would have conflicted with her parents' beliefs as Jehovah's Witnesses. The ruling in the High Court overruled them and gave the hospital powers to allow Stephannie Charalambous to have the transfusion.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas yesterday lifted reporting restrictions on an emergency hearing held the previous evening in order that ports and airports could be alerted to prevent the child returning to Cyprus. He

ordered her parents to return the child or face arrest.

A hospital spokesman said after the hearing: "She will die very painfully indeed if she does not get treatment within 24 hours. Once treatment starts there is a good chance of a cure, without it there is certainty of death."

Stephanie was admitted to a private wing at the hospital on Sunday. Doctors diagnosed leukaemia and told the parents, whose first names are not known, that treatment including blood transfusions were essential to save the girl's life. The parents made it clear such treatment was against their religious beliefs and asked for a second opinion. Staff agreed to allow samples to be taken for testing at the Royal Marsden Hospital.

Stephanie's parents and a group of friends from London's Greek Cypriot

community were at her bedside on Monday night. Nurses later found that they had left taking Stephanie. It is believed the parents telephoned the hospital saying they were taking her to Royal Marsden hospital.

Police and social workers failed to trace them to an address in Turnpike Lane, Wood Green, north London, where the family had been staying with friends since arriving from Limassol in Cyprus on Sunday.

The hospital spokesman said: "Blood transfusions will form a major part of the treatment and are essential immediately if her life is to be saved. She has been made a ward of court and once we get her back the treatment can start at once regardless of the views of her parents. It is essential she be found."

Dr Jon Pritchard, consultant

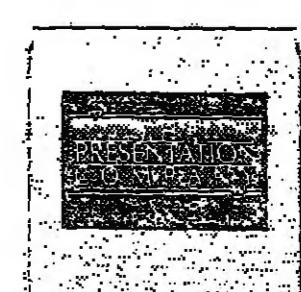
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GPs threaten to halt minor surgery over cash battle

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

FAMILY doctors threatened yesterday to stop carrying out minor surgery if the government insists on introducing regulations restricting payments to GPs. The move could lead to thousands of extra cases being added to hospital waiting lists.

Under the GPs' contract that came into effect on April 1, family doctors are encouraged to take on more minor surgery such as the removal of lumps, bumps and warts, to reduce pressure on hospitals and bring down waiting lists. However, the health department is insisting that no GP will qualify for extra payments for that work unless he or she is competent in 27 surgical areas, including complex procedures such as the treatment of varicose veins and piles. Officials have now written to the general medical services committee proposing to revise the existing regulations accordingly.

Michael Wilson, the committee chairman, yesterday described the move as nonsense and claimed the department's bureaucratic approach was threatening to stifle one of the best parts of the new contract.

"The government is determined to put the clock back and block one of the few beneficial changes flowing from the new contract," Dr Wilson told the local medical committee's annual conference in London. "Minor surgery is beneficial to patients because it shortens waiting lists, avoids the need to go into hospital and improves services."

Under the new performance-related contract, doctors are allowed to do up to 60 surgical sessions a year, for which they should be paid £20 a session. If Britain's 30,000 GPs carried out all their sessions, 1.8 million people would avoid hospital admission. If they do not qualify to get on the local family practices committee's minor surgery list, doctors risk losing up to £1,800 a year each.

Dr Wilson said that 80 per cent of all GPs had applied to be on those surgery lists and about 90 per cent of those doctors had been accepted using the criteria of competence in some if not all the 27 surgical areas.

The practitioner committees have been advised by health department officials to reassess GPs under the new criteria, but Dr Wilson suspects that the vast majority will no longer qualify. Representatives at the meeting

Talks on hospitals opting out

HEALTH authorities would have to ask local bodies about hospitals' applications to become self-governing, but no single group would have a veto, Baroness Hooper, parliamentary secretary at the health department, said yesterday (Jill Sherman writes).

She told radiographers at Harrogate that regions would be required to talk to community health councils, but could decide locally which other groups to consult. Decisions on trust applications would depend on whether it benefited patients locally, "not whether it meets the approval of our particular group".

Much publicity had been given to ballots, but in each case different questions had been asked and different constituencies had voted. "I do not believe that, given the complex managerial, clinical and financial issues involved, this is a sensible way to seek opinion," she said.

The secretary of state's decision on trust applications will be based on individual applications and all the comments received."



Rachael Harrison: Should have changed trains at Reading, where bugs were found

'Green' claims code for broadcast advertising

By RICHARD EVANS, MEDIA EDITOR

TELEVISION and radio advertisers will be prevented from claiming that products are "green", "safe" or "environment-friendly" after the publication yesterday of new guidelines by the Independent Television Association.

The guidelines, which set out strict criteria for making generalised claims about a product's environmental benefit, were published 24 hours after the Advertising Standards Authority criticised some press advertisements and highlighted signs that consumers were beginning to be sceptical about such claims.

Television advertisements making an environmental claim have doubled during the past year and the association's copy clearance department, which monitors commercial scripts, has been forced to reject some because

of their "exaggerated" content. The guidelines were drawn up in consultation with environmental groups, including Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the Worldwide Fund for Nature.

They are being sent to advertising agencies and say all claims "must be supported by sound factual evidence acceptable to the ITV association and its technical advisers". Categorical statements such as "green" or "environment-friendly" are most unlikely to be approved for any mass-produced product.

"These are very strong claims, so strong that at present we cannot conceive of any product meeting the correspondingly severe standard of proof we would demand to substantiate this sort of absolute claim," said Ian Maclean, head of the copy

clearance department, said. "Less strong claims, for example that unbleached nappies are 'friendlier' to the environment than bleached nappies, may be acceptable but only if justified by official seals of approval. Technical jargon should be explained and advertisements should not attempt to blind audiences with science."

Generalised claims about a product's environmental benefit will be assessed by considering the complete life cycle of the product and its packaging, including any effects on the environment flowing from its manufacture, use or disposal.

Spurious claims that a product is "free from" a certain ingredient will also be rejected. For example, a claim that a product which had a damaging element removed was kinder to the environment would be unacceptable if the ingredient had been replaced by

an equally damaging one. Pictures and symbols in advertisements must be unambiguous and should not be capable of being mistaken by viewers as official seals of approval. Technical jargon should be explained and advertisements should not attempt to blind audiences with science."

Mr Maclean said: "We aim to prevent a devaluation of the green currency while enabling advertisers to promote genuine environmental benefits. The guidelines aim to enable advertisers to make only legitimate advertising claims."

Aerosols, catalytic converters for cars, recycled paper, nappies, petrol and detergents have been among the products claiming environmental advantages on television, and the Independent Television Association expects the list to grow.



Police painstakingly searching for clues on the lawns of the damaged early 18th-century West Green House, in Hampshire, after the bomb explosion on Tuesday night

Police face another tactical twist in IRA mainland terror campaign

By STEWART TENDER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

AS POLICE and forensic scientists began scouring the site of the explosion at West Green yesterday, there was little private doubt within Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad that the IRA's mainland campaign had taken another tactical twist.

After almost two years of attacks on quasi-military targets, the active service units have bombed a purely civilian target in their 12th attack. The IRA has attacked civilian targets since the first mainland attack in the 1970s, arguing that they represented part of a military, political or economic machine ranged against the republican cause. Some of the most deadly attacks have been against civilian targets.

Last night, the health department confirmed that a doctor would have to display competence in all the approved procedures to be admitted on a minor surgery list. "This is to encourage GPs to extend their skills and provide additional services to their patients."

In the 1980s the IRA tactic turned from long-running campaigns to short, sharp attacks with a potential to earn great publicity, such as the attack on Harrods in 1983 and the Grand Hotel in Brighton in 1984. The plans changed a year later to attacks on resorts and ports using delayed action devices. The police arrested the unit before many bombs were planted.

The IRA has not given up. Over the years the organisation has built up intelligence on possible targets. Sources such as *Who's Who* have often been found among the belongings of active service units.

Police have known for some time that the IRA strategists might point their units towards establishment figures in politics, Whitehall or the judiciary. The lists of names found at a south London

bomb factory after the campaign started in 1989 showed the range of options the terrorists were considering.

The IRA has kept police guessing, however, about when it might turn to civilian targets, adding to the deliberate unpredictability of its campaign and methods. The West Green bomb is likely to be similar to the devices the active service units have used in four attacks against buildings, which have claimed a dozen lives. A device with a timing mechanism of little more than an hour was probably left propped against the outer wall of the house sometime after dark.

The rate of IRA attacks is increasing. There have been four within a month and police believe that several IRA units, with changing memberships, are at work. Detectives see little sign of the campaign abating, but believe it will not reach the level of activity of the 1970s. None the less,

Decibels limit for muezzins

By CRAIG SETON

THE daily call to prayer for Muslims in Leicester annoyed local residents when mosques began using amplifiers and loudspeakers. Now environmental health officers are drawing up a code of practice to limit the noise level to 70 decibels.

Officials had found that the amplified ritual call to prayer could reach 90 decibels, 20 decibels above the level of ringing church bells. After talks with Muslim leaders to reduce the nuisance to non-Muslims, a compromise was reached. Imams at three mosques have agreed to fit electronic suppressors to amplification equipment to ensure that the two-minute call will not exceed the agreed decibel level.

Miss Harrison's brother Jeremy, who travelled to Reading to help in the search, said: "We are all terribly worried. We are a close family and Rachel is a responsible girl. She is quite shy. She wouldn't just go off with a stranger. We're alarmed that her luggage turned up because if it was lost or stolen she would have phoned to let us know, and knowing her she would have also called the police as well."

Detective Sergeant Dick Evans, of the British Transport Police, said: "Rachel is a shy girl and for her to vanish like this is completely out of character. We are extremely concerned. There was no reason at all for Rachel to leave the station area and go anywhere near that car park."

• The disappearance of Miss Harrison is similar to that of Eila Karjalainen, a Finnish student who was abducted in the Thames Valley in 1983. Miss Karjalainen, aged 23, had been travelling to Wales from central London. Her passport and rucksack were found at a roadside near Witney, Oxfordshire, and her body was later discovered in the grounds of Blenheim Palace. She had been strangled, but the murderer was never caught.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 14

IRA has managed to establish a foothold in mainland Britain for a sustained campaign for the first time for more than a decade. The attack on Lord McAlpine of West Green could signal a fresh direction, bringing more difficulties for the police and security efforts.

• Unlike many of the great stately homes owned by the National Trust, West Green is built on a relatively modest scale, a delightful early 18th-century house with a charming garden and no pretensions (John Young writes).

The estate's history is obscure, but it is thought to have been built by General Hawley, who served under the Duke of Cumberland and became known as "Hangman Hawley" because of his brutal treatment of the Scots after the battle of Culloden.

The main house is roughly square with a hipped roof and pedimented dormer windows. A curiosity of the west front, overlooking the garden, is that, instead of windows on the first floor, it has a row of five busts set in circular niches. Windows were not needed because the side of the house is wholly occupied by a grand panelled saloon with a coved ceiling, pedimented doorcases and a palatial mantelpiece.

West Green was given to the trust by Sir Victor Sassoon in 1957. From 1973 until earlier this year it was occupied on a full repairing lease by Lord McAlpine, who made improvements to the garden.

The trust had planned to continue restoration work, find a new tenant and reopen the house and garden to the public. Damage to the windows and brickwork was a serious setback, but it was not clear whether the structure had been affected, the trust said.

Thatcherite 'nomad' becomes a target

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

MARGARET Thatcher gathers much of her will to carry on from her close circle of "family friends" which includes Lord McAlpine of West Green. His position singles him out as a likely IRA target.

One of a small, dwindling band of true Thatchers from the outset, his steady loyalty inspired him to use his personal charm to cajole fellow business into donating hundreds of millions of pounds to party coffers in his 15 years as honorary treasurer.

The intensity of his life, with homes in London and Australia, resulted in a triple heart bypass operation after the last general election. He is only 48. Yet when selling off the entire contents of West Green House for £1.75 million last month he said he had decided to make a different style of life, "to win the freedom to choose again".

The appeal of Thatcherism appears to be linked to his addiction to freedom. It is a philosophy he extends to his conservation projects, where he insists that animals in his zoo at Broome, north-west Australia, should roam as freely as possible. While establishing the zoo he also

• Alistair McAlpine became during the Common Market referendum campaign. He extended his loyalty to Lord Young of Graffham, siding with him against the "Willie faction" in the battle for chairmanship of the party. But he turned against the former chairman John Gunn and Norman Tebbit.

In spite of their common business backgrounds he is no supporter of Michael Heseltine, claiming that, if he were ever in a position of authority, he would become "paralysed by indecision".

Alistair McAlpine became in 1984, joining his father Lord McAlpine of Moffat, in the upper house.

Only a month ago the young McAlpine and Mrs Thatcher attended a memorial service for his father at St Paul's Cathedral.

Father and son, claimed to be descended from eight generations of Scottish kings.

He has a mania for collecting — from boomerangs to rhubarb cultivators — yet a suspicion of possessions. His interest lies more in acquiring the knowledge that goes with collecting than in ownership.

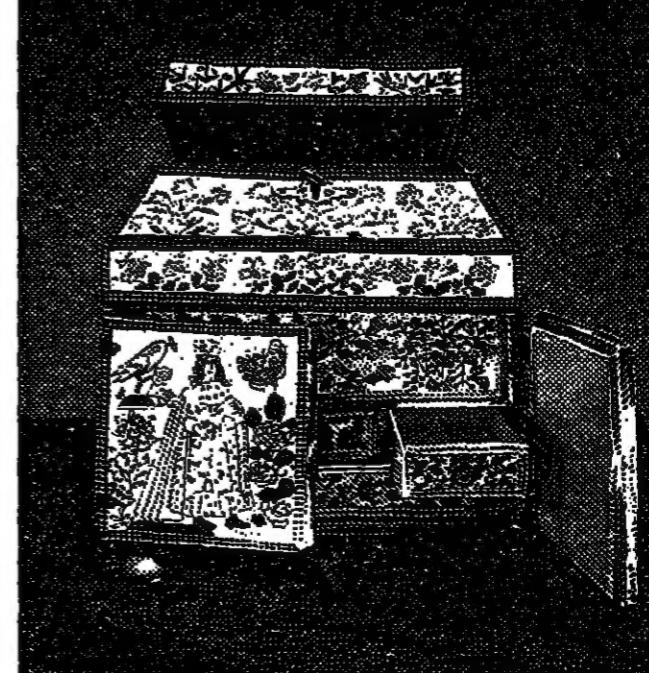
"I am a nomad of nomad stock, setting little store in possessions, anxious in their pursuit, casual in their disposal," he said.

Lord McAlpine: A mania for collecting

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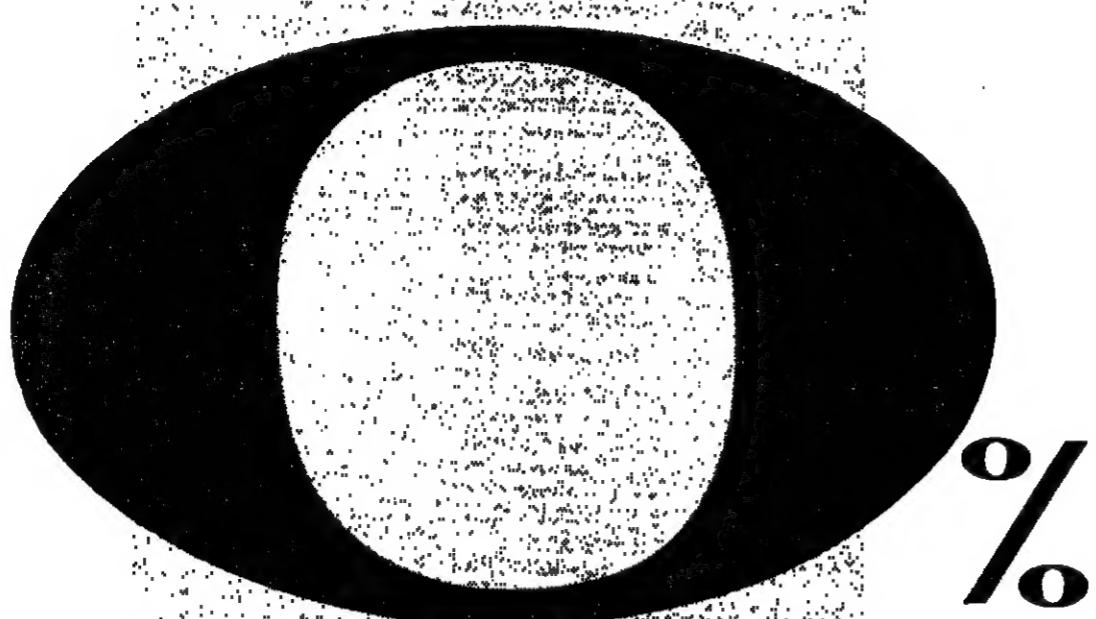
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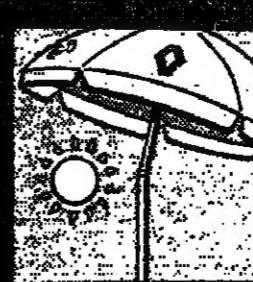
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		Finance Charges	£Nil	£Nil	£Nil
2 Years	0%	Total Credit Price	£5995	£6270	£7230
		Minimum Deposit 60%	£3596.92	£3762	£4338
		Max. Repayment Period	24 months	24 months	24 months
		Monthly Payment	£99.92	£104.50	£126.50
		Finance Charges	£Nil	£Nil	£Nil
3 Years	7.9% p.a. 15.7% APR	Total Credit Price	£5995	£6270	£7230
		Minimum Deposit	£99	£99	£99
		Max. Repayment Period	36 months	36 months	36 months
		Monthly Payment	£202.59	£212.04	£245.02
		Finance Charges	£1897.34	£1462.44	£1639.72
4 Years	8.9% p.a. 17.3% APR	Total Credit Price*	£7417.34	£7767.44	£8944.72
		Minimum Deposit 20%	£1199	£1254	£1446
		Max. Repayment Period	48 months	48 months	48 months
		Monthly Payment	£135.48	£141.70	£163.39
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Future of Walker's Welsh valleys initiative in doubt

By NICHOLAS WAITT



Walker: Believed market alone could not tackle area

WHEN Peter Walker launched the "valleys initiative" two years ago today he hailed it as the great opportunity to regenerate the economy of the South Wales valleys, which had all but collapsed with the decline of the coal and steel industries. Many commentators, however, feel that the new Welsh secretary, David Hunt, will not be committed to such an interventionist scheme, which bears all the marks of Mr Walker's brand of traditional Toryism.

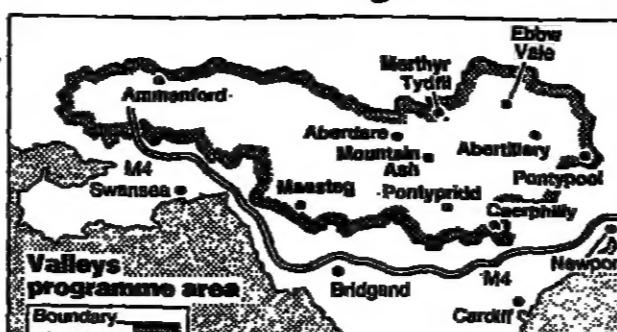
Alan Michael, a Labour frontbench spokesman on Welsh affairs, said: "David Hunt is known as 'Dai poll tax', which will make it very difficult for him to establish any credibility."

When Mr Walker launched the programme, initially for three years but extended last year to 1993, he promised £500 million from the government, with the aim of attracting more than £1,000 million

from the private sector. The investment was the equivalent of £1,900 for every household in the valleys or £13,500 for every unemployed person.

The target was to create 30,000 jobs out of a population of 700,000, to put the area on the same level as southeast England. Mr Walker believed the market could not be left to regenerate an area scarred by pollution where 425,000 jobs had been lost in the decline of the coal and steel industries.

In the 1920s half of the Welsh male population worked in coal and steel but today less than 2 per cent in the valleys are employed in those industries. The valleys initiative has had some success, with a drop of 10,600 in unemployment between June 1988 and March 1990. The area, however, has not been able to keep up with the boom in the economy of the M4 corridor around Cardiff, Newport and Swansea. Jonathan



Morris, of the Cardiff Business School, said: "It is clear the valleys are doing very badly. The £547 million that will be pumped into the development of Cardiff Bay puts the initiative into perspective." What is more, he added, the housing problem in the valleys is so chronic that tackling it would swallow up the initiative's budget.

Cynon Valley, Mid Glamorgan, is still the poorest district in Wales. It is followed by Rhondda, Blaenau Gwent and Merthyr Tydfil. These areas have also been badly hit by the poll tax.

Most commentators agree that the initiative has been a repackaging of old money. In the 1988 launch document the largest sum mentioned referred to money that had already been allocated under regional grants.

David Waterstone, chief

executive of the Welsh Development Agency, said the initiative had transformed morale in the area as well as providing an encouraging set of statistics. The land reclamation programme, run and funded by the agency, had been the most important factor in changing morale, he said. "We have already reclaimed an area the size of the Gower Peninsula and last year we more than doubled the reclamation area in the valleys to 833 acres at a cost of £15.3 million."

After the land reclamation scheme the agency is promoting the biggest factory building programme in the history of the valleys. The number of urban renewal projects nearly doubled last year to 25 at a cost of £1.8 million. That figure will be increased to £3.2 million next year.

The new optimism for the valleys is particularly strong in Blaenau Gwent borough council. "The land reclama-

tion programme has moved us away from the image of black hills with miners singing 'How Green Is My Valley,'" according to Peter Walker, chairman of the council's economic development committee. He said the valleys initiative had been a great help but the borough did have its own regeneration programmes.

The borough offered wage subsidies to encourage firms to take people off the dole queue. The council also had a training centre for the young and unemployed. If an industrialist wanted to relocate to the area or to start up in the borough the council would send instructors to the factory to develop a training programme.

With the closure of two pits last year, unemployment is very slow in the borough. "We worked hard just to stand still but now we can see the light at the end of the tunnel," Mr Walker said.

Flood-hit areas to get £1.5m more in grants

By ALISON CAMERON

MORE government aid is to go to areas affected by the floods which struck North Wales in February, taking the total sum to more than £4 million. David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, announced yesterday.

He said that under a review of its emergency grants scheme, the government would pay 95 per cent of councils' costs for urgent repair work, instead of 85 per cent, bringing government contributions to more than £1.5 million. Mr Hunt was in Colwyn Bay to present the first emergency grant cheques. Colwyn borough council received £27,726 and £96,674 went to Rhuddlan council.

Bill Breeze, chief executive of Colwyn borough council, estimated that the review of the grants scheme would mean a reduction for residents of £9 or £10 in next year's poll tax bill. He said, however, that more than a thousand people were still homeless and living in temporary housing supplied by councils. He had hoped for a substantial government contribution to the disaster fund, to take it to between £3 and £4 million.

Mr Hunt told him yesterday, however, that no more government money would be given to the fund and that the £150,000 contribution was more than had been given to any other emergency fund where there was no loss of life.

Mr Breeze said: "We have suffered in an ironic way that there was no loss of life. We cannot point to dead bodies but we can point to people in a lot of distress. What is the point of giving to dead bodies?" He said that it was through the fund that cheques were directly paid to those who had suffered losses and were under-insured.

The total government contribution of £4,090,000 is made up of £1.5 million in emergency grants, £150,000 for disaster funds, £2 million in renovations grants, £150,000 for the treatment of agricultural land and £290,000 in community care grants.

Mr Hunt was concerned at the level of public contributions to the disaster appeal fund, now standing at about £700,000. He said: "I hope people throughout the United Kingdom will realise the extent of the tragedy to the local communities and to individuals."

The Strangeways enquiry

Officer thanks the inmate who saved his life as riot began

By PETER DAVENPORT

AN INMATE in Strangeways at the time of the riot told yesterday how he saved the life of a prison officer who was beaten unconscious and repeatedly kicked by rampaging prisoners at the end of a chapel service.

In spite of being threatened and warned by rioters to leave the injured officer to his fate, the inmate persisted in his efforts. He finally persuaded them to let him carry Brian McCormick to safety by yell: "You have to let us get this officer out of here because if he dies we are going to be on a murder charge."

The bravery of the inmate, whose identity was given only as Mr A for his own protection, was praised by the lawyer representing the Prison Officers' Association at the Woolf enquiry into the disturbances.

Mr McCormick, who is still off work, was in the room to hear the words of his rescuer.

Guinness trial is adjourned

THE GUINNESS trial at Southwark Crown Court was unexpectedly halted yesterday as the company's former chairman, Ernest Saunders, was about to start his seventh day of evidence in his defence.

Mr Saunders sat in the witness box for more than 30 minutes as leading counsel talked with the trial judge, Mr Justice Henry, in his chambers. Eventually, a court of official announced that the hearing was being adjourned until this morning. The jury was not present and no indication was given as to the reason for the adjournment.

Fish deaths

Scientists are investigating the death of more than 10,000 fish in the river Cywne, near Carmarthen, in Dyfed. National Rivers Authority staff have blamed silage and animal slurry from a farm.

Drugs raids

Police were questioning about a dozen people in Derby after dawn drugs raids by more than 100 officers on 17 homes resulted in the seizure of "crack".

Cyclist missing

West Yorkshire police are searching for Mrs Jean Rhodes, aged 52, who failed to return to her home at Woodsley Green, Burley, in Leeds, after cycling to a post box on Monday.

Damages award

Juliet Robson, aged 21, of Reading, Berkshire, was awarded £375,000 in the High Court after being paralysed when she was a passenger in a car that crashed in 1985.

Dustcarts win

The Warwickshire firm of Dennis Eagle has beaten off competition to win a £7 million order from Hong Kong for 117 dustcarts.

Arabic rock

Middle Eastern visitors to Blackpool can now buy a stick of rock with the resort's name running through it in Arabic.

Phone boxes

The Queen has taken delivery of two old-style red public telephone boxes to display in the grounds of Sandringham.

As he explained what happened next Mr A appeared to break down. He said: "I said you have to let us get this officer out of here because if he dies we are going to be on a murder charge. He opened the door and then screamed at the officer, 'Just remember, it's me that has done this to you and no one else.'"

Although the officer was allowed to be taken out, the riot leader refused to allow Mr A to leave and ordered him back to the chapel, where he then went to try to assist the senior prison chaplain, the Rev Noel Proctor. Mr A said he was eventually led to safety by two officers.

Mr G, also a member of the choir, told how he too had been warned of trouble, saying he had been told to take a stick to chapel. He and other inmates had also found an injured officer and carried him to safety on a stretcher.

Another prisoner, a former policeman who had been serving a two-year sentence for manslaughter, said that he too was involved in the rescue of Mr McCormick. Denis Binks, aged 56, who elected to be identified, had been in the choir and was critical of prison officers on duty in the chapel, alleging that many had run out when the disturbances began.

Mr Binks, who was released from prison last month, said: "I would not say they did not care but they made no effort at all. If it had not been for the inmates I feel that the officer would perhaps have died. They made no effort at all to go to him, to rescue him or to stop the riot."

An inmate identified as Mr H, held on segregation under rule 43 for his own protection, said he was told by staff not to join the chapel service on as disturbances were feared.

Once the riot started he and two other inmates barricaded themselves in their cell. As rioting prisoners advanced towards the section determined to attack the rule 43 men, two officers led him and his cell mates to safety.

The enquiry continues today.

According to Professor Cheshire British cities are far less prosperous than their

counterparts in the European Community and only Brighton, Norwich, London and Edinburgh figure in the top 50 in its league table. Glasgow just pips the Sardinian town of Cagliari, and Leeds and Birmingham are just ahead of Palermo. Fifteen British cities are at the bottom 50.

"Inevitably there are anomalies," Professor Cheshire concedes. "Venice, which is placed third, should be lower. The high level of tourism has inflated its position." He says British cities have become wealthier in the past few years but that his study represents averages covering 1971 to 1988.

Few economists disagree with his placings of Frankfurt and Brussels in the top two positions. Some of his colleagues, however, believe that London, Edinburgh, Manchester and Birmingham should be much higher up.

Seldom has an urban studies survey provoked such a strong reaction as the one undertaken by Professor Paul Cheshire. "Dafy and subjective," was one of the more restrained comments on the study. "His approach, which was pioneered years ago in the United States, has been demolished," a geography lecturer added.

The MP's immediately retorted that British cities are improving and that "this kind of research does Britain down". The economists and geographers descend into complex arguments about variables, discriminative analysis and faulty methodology.

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Britain takes dim view of EC job policy

From MICHAEL BINYON IN STRASBOURG

BRITAIN yesterday expressed outrage at proposals announced by the European Commission to give part-time workers the same sickness, redundancy, pensions and maternity benefits as full-time workers, saying they were misguided and would damage job prospects.

Michael Howard, the employment secretary, said the proposals, the first from the social charter, seemed designed to discourage part-time work. The employment department said the move would dissuade employers from providing generous incentives for their full-time workers.

The proposed directives were announced by Vasso Papandreou, the social affairs commissioner. They oblige employers to pay pro rata similar benefits to the 14 million part-time and 10 million temporary employees now working in the EC.

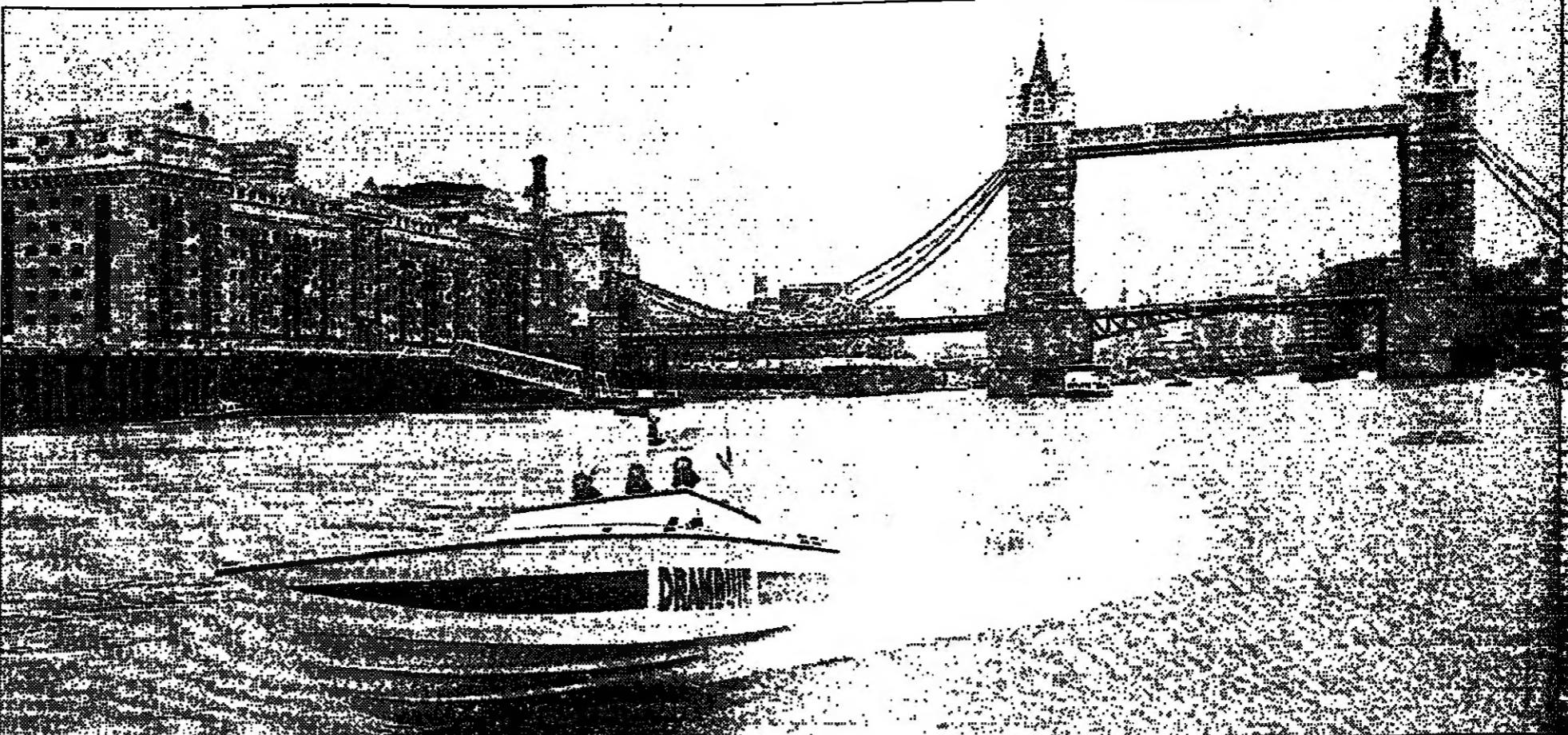
Mrs Papandreou said some countries, such as Britain and West Germany, would have to change their laws. The measures were needed to give better social protection to employees and because the differing social security obligations meant that employers at

present could seek to move their operations to countries where there was the least need to pay security benefits: a clear distortion of competition.

Mrs Papandreou's directives apply only to part-time employees working more than eight hours a week. They will add considerably to employers' costs in Britain. About five million people now work part-time with a further one million in temporary employment. Under British law, anyone earning more than £46 a week has to pay national insurance, with the cost being divided between the employer and employee. That entitles them to sickness, pension and unemployment benefits.

The employment department was also also angry that Mrs Papandreou put forward her measures on the basis of a clause in the Treaty of Rome banning distortion of competition, which allows ministers to pass it by majority voting, instead of requiring unanimity. Britain, which would otherwise have vetoed the directive, seems likely to take the commission to court.

Mrs Papandreou said EC lawyers were confident they could win any case.



In the drink: the 46ft Drambuie Challenger on the Thames yesterday. The boat is scheduled to attempt to break the around Britain powerboat record on Friday

Germ warfare aims to beat food poisoning

RESEARCHERS are developing a form of germ warfare using "friendly" bacteria to kill harmful microbes that lead to food poisoning (Nick Nuttall writes).

Mike Gasson's team at the institute of food research in Norwich has been studying lactic acid bacteria, which are used to ferment and give flavour to

cheeses and yoghurts. The researchers have identified several strains with genes that produce natural chemicals and proteins, some of which attack specific bacteria, including listeria.

The Norwich team has developed techniques to transfer beneficial genes from one strain to another. The researchers hope that by moving several of these

into one strain of lactic acid bacteria, they may create a powerful weapon against the food-poisoning agents.

Dr Gasson is now ready for full trials with food. "All we are doing is taking genes which naturally occur in the gene pool of these nutritious and edible bugs, while also endowing them with better food-preserving properties," he said.

Scientists contest assurances on safety of beef

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

LEADING scientists yesterday challenged the government's assurances that British beef is safe and called for extra measures to protect people and animals against infection.

Professor Richard Lacey, the Leeds University microbiologist, told the Commons agriculture select committee enquiry into "mad cow" disease: "We do not know if it is safe. If our worst fears are realized we could virtually lose a whole generation of people."

Tory members of the committee repeatedly took issue with Professor Lacey, accusing him of using "emotive" language and spreading "undue alarm". Christopher Gill, Tory MP for Ludlow, who runs a meat processing business, said the professor was peddling "conjecture and speculation". Professor Lacey retorted that "the whole point" about bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) was the lack of scientific certainty.

There was some support for Professor Lacey from the three other scientists giving evidence. Dr Helen Grant, a retired neuropathologist from Charing Cross hospital, Dr Ivor Mills, emeritus professor of medicine at Cambridge, and Dr Gareth Roberts, a lecturer in molecular neuropathology at St Mary's hospital medical school.

Only Dr Roberts seemed satisfied that the action taken by the government had made beef safe. Professor Lacey said the BSE agent might be lurking in muscle tissue and not just in the brain, spinal cord and other offals which, since last November, must be removed at the slaughterhouse.

All four scientists agreed that "considerable numbers" of people could have been exposed to infected offal in meat products before the ban on such tissue came into effect. This could be reflected in an increased incidence of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, the most common form of spongiform encephalopathy in humans in 20 years' time.

The scientists expressed "astonishment" that the government still allowed sheep and cattle offal to go into pig and poultry feed.

Professor Mills said a pig-adapted strain of scrapie, the long-existing spongiform encephalopathy in sheep that is believed to have

passed to cattle via feed, was likely to emerge in time.

"By including offal in pig and poultry rations we could also be distributing the disease throughout the country. Men and rats always get at food on farms and could become infected. This is not a sensible risk to take," he said.

Spongiform encephalopathies have been induced in mice and rats in the laboratory. In an experiment commissioned by the agriculture ministry, BSE was transmitted to mice by feeding them brain tissue from infected cattle equivalent to more than half their own weight. Scientists conducting the experiment emphasized that such a high level of exposure was unlikely to occur outside the laboratory.

Simon Gourlay, president of the National Farmers' Union, said his members had decided, in consultation with animal feed companies, to observe a voluntary ban on the use of the specified offals in pig and poultry feed.

£300m to clean up beaches

BRITAIN'S dirtiest beaches are to be cleaned up in a £300 million scheme "to make up for a hundred years of neglect".

The European Community is prosecuting Britain over the beaches at Blackpool, Southport and Formby, which are badly affected by sewage pumped into the Irish Sea. Yesterday, on the eve of a Commons debate on pollution, the North West water authority announced a spending plan under which new inland sewage treatment plants will be used in place of pipelines into the sea.

The authority said: "This is to make up for 100 years of neglect. We are determined to get on with the job as quickly as possible."

The move was welcomed by Michael Jack, the Conservative MP for Fylde, John Hall, Blackpool's deputy tourism director, and Louise Ellman, leader of Lancashire county council.

Message of global calm from US

By MICHAEL McCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

AMERICA'S greenhouse effect revisionists came to London yesterday and repeated for the benefit of Margaret Thatcher, the prime minister, the advice that has made them celebrities to the Bush administration: there is no need to act yet to counter global climate change.

At a meeting paid for by British Coal, Professor William Nierenberg and Mr James Frekl brought the reassuring message of the George C. Marshall Institute, their small Washington think-tank which had earned them denunciation from scientists and applause from those in the United States government who fear that measures to counter the greenhouse effect will do damage to the economy.

There is no scientific support for measures to control emissions of the principal greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide (CO₂), from motor vehicles and coal-fired power stations, they said at a reception to which British Coal contributed the costs and the presence of several senior executives. Malcolm Edward, British Coal's commercial director, said: "There is a very clear difference of opinion

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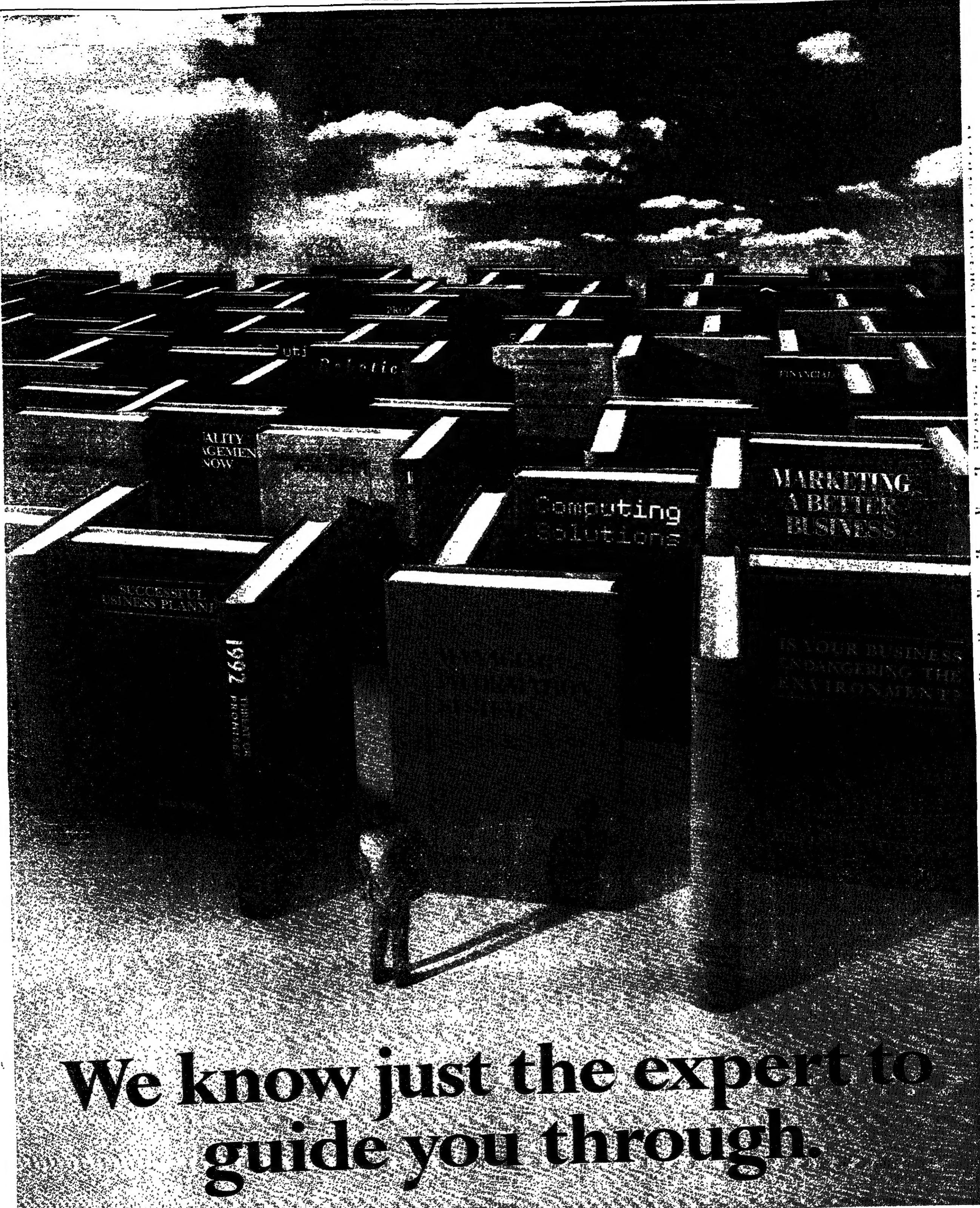
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Hong Kong bill breaks pact, Tebbit insists

THE government's arrangements for awarding British passports to some Hong Kong residents as the resumption of control of the colony by China approaches were criticised by both sides when the Commons returned to the issue yesterday.

Under the British Nationality (Hong Kong) bill, 50,000 heads of households will be granted British passports under a points system, with points awarded according to background and position held.

As a concession to critics, the government has proposed that the governor of the colony will be required to make an annual report to Parliament on how the scheme is working.

During bitter exchanges, Norman Tebbit (Cainfield, C) said that the bill was in breach of the agreement reached between Britain and China for the takeover of the colony in 1997. He was accused of seeking to apologise for a "gang of geriatric murderers".

Alistair Darling, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that Labour believed the points system would cover only a narrow section of the population. Those who had a choice would be given an additional choice. What was to be done to reassure the others?

Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) said that however bestial Chinese governments were perceived to be from time to time,

define which great and good citizens of Hong Kong would get points. What of those in mundane jobs, such as school teachers? They were no less good citizens than those who were employers and wealth creators.

There were excruciating dilemmas for the governor. He is being asked to construct a lifeline for key people in Hong Kong, but Hong Kong is a ship full of people.

What signal does the government give to the generosity of the people of Hong Kong by saying that there are only 50,000 citizens available for 50,000 citizens? How is that supposed to improve the morale of the totality of the ship's company?

Robert Mackman, Liberal Democrat spokesman on home affairs, said that the change proposed to the bill was acceptable, but it did not go far because it confined the governor to reporting on his functions under the bill. Those functions were capable of causing great trouble because of the disappointment felt by those excluded from the scheme.

If the report was simply to be on how the scheme was operating, it would not say much about Hong Kong or its political needs, nor would it deal with those who might prove to be stateless after 1997.

Robert Adley (Christchurch, C) said that however bestial Chinese governments were perceived to be from time to time,

PASSPORTS

that was a fact of life that always governed relations.

There had never been any form of democracy in Hong Kong. Many of those uneducated people, sometimes rather rudely known as "fat cats" who purported to speak for the five to six million people of the colony, had rather less knowledge of the hawker in the backstreets than they would have others believe.

That this bill was produced without any consultation between the British and Chinese governments or without the Chinese even being informed of the government's intentions was not the best way to ensure the maintenance of a stable relationship.

Max Madden (Bradford, W, Lab) said that he understood the first passports were to be issued this year. There was an urgency about the matter.

Mr Tebbit questioned the use of the word "urgency". People were anxious. But ministers were not urgent in the sense that some great disaster would befall them if passports were not issued this year, next year or the year after. "In fact, they do not need them until 1997."

Mr Madden said that Mr Tebbit was trying to be obscure or he was seeking to continue his campaign that had fizzled out on the night of the second reading. Stopping the haem-

orrhage of people and to get the scheme enshrined in the bill under way and the passports made available was urgent.

Mr Tebbit said that the Chinese government opposed the bill and regarded it as a breach of the accord reached between the two governments, "as it clearly is".

Mr Adley said the Chinese regarded it as a breach of the spirit and the letter of the agreement. There was a vital clause in the agreement laying down that the Chinese would not interfere in the day-to-day running of Hong Kong. Equally, there was a commitment that the people of Hong Kong should not meddle in the politics of the mainland. The people of Hong Kong should be reminded of the risks they ran by constantly seeking to have their cake and eat it.

Mr Tebbit said that if the Chinese saw constant breaches they kept it. "They have been a government which has stuck to its word and I regret that it should see that government as being in breach of an accord which has been solemnly entered into."

History showed that when the Chinese made an agreement they kept it. "They have been a government which has stuck to its word and I regret that it should see that government as being in breach of an accord which has been solemnly entered into."

Mr Tebbit said he had not got to the stage of urging the government to declare war on the Republic of China, which was the extension of what was being said. "If Mr Madden thinks I support any Chinese regime anywhere in the world, he is looking at the wrong man and he is looking at the wrong side of the House."

certain this measure is not any breach of the agreement and accord".

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China was an excellent reason for Britain's calling an end to the accord.

Attack on 'pork barrel politics'

The prime minister must stop cabinet ministers joining the boards of companies they had privatised, Lord Williams of Elvel, Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said in the House.

He referred to the practice as a "modern version of pork barrel politics".

During a debate on the role of the trade and industry department in promoting industrial recovery and a balance in the economy, he also criticised the attitude of Nicholas Ridley, the trade and industry secretary.

Lord Williams referred to the absence from the debate of three Tory peers, Lord Young of Graffham, a former trade and industry secretary, Lord Joseph and Lord Jenkins of Rodning.

Could it be that these three, who in a debate in 1988 had defended government policy, no longer had the stomach for the fight? Or perhaps they were too busy nursing their seats in the board rooms of newly privatised companies?

In that debate two years ago, Lord Young had introduced the white paper that had called his department the "department for enterprise". Since then there had been serious inflation and an appalling balance of payments. Interest rates were too high and unemployment was rising. None of the white paper's objectives had been met, and some had not even been aimed at. There had been a sad history.

Referring to "under-the-counter sweeteners" in the Rover privatisation, Lord Williams said that ministers would almost certainly be told by the EC Commission that they had acted illegally and that the buyer (British Aerospace) would have to pay. Furthermore, correspondence between Lord Young, then trade and industry secretary, and the buyer had come to light that had shocked those used to high standards in public life.

There had also been the failure to block the House of Fraser takeover, even though the secretary of state had had in his possession the inspector's report on the despatch of the authorities.

The record had not just been a case of ministerial bungling. "It is not just a matter of abject surrender to special interests, however disreputable that has been. Above all, there has been an unacceptable degree of ministerial deviousness. That is the case against ministers."

Mr Ridley had said that all that evidence related to the past, but ministers had to accept responsibility for the actions of those who preceded them. Mr Ridley was said to have entered his new office and asked: "What is this place for?"

What had changed? There had been no new white paper to supersede that of 1988, and no definition of roles. There were ripples of activities being hived off into executive agencies and about the department's "being torn apart".

The department must be put back where it belonged, as the centrepiece of a strategy to bring the economy back from near disaster. That meant a policy that promoted industry.

Lord Trefgarne, trade and industry minister, said that the trade balance was only one indicator of manufacturing performance. The government's strategy was based on the proposition that it was for business, not government, to stand in the market place and to take the economic decisions on which its success depended.

He understood that Sir Leon Brittan (EC commissioner) had presented his recommendations on Rover to his fellow commissioners and that a commission decision was likely next Wednesday. A statement would be made when the government had been told the decision.

Minister looks to Iran visit

A visit to Iran by British parliamentarians could help efforts to assist the hostages, William Waldegrave, the Foreign Office minister, said at questions.

He said it was Iran that had broken off diplomatic relations, although Britain had some legitimate complaints about Iran, involving Salman Rushdie and Roger Cooper.

"None of this means we should not explore the options which are being sent from Iran. We welcome what Mr Rafsanjani (the Iranian president) said in a recent interview in *The Sunday Times*."

Sanctions on South Africa

Sanctions on South Africa were rapidly becoming yesterday's argument and were no longer the most effective means of putting pressure on South Africa, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said.

He told Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey, Lib Dem) that Britain was not planning to remove sanctions now, but ministers saw the need to give practical proof to encourage President de Klerk in the steps he was taking.

Plea to help tourism

The government is examining arguments on the exemption from the business rate of private homes offering bed and breakfast for tourists.

Christopher Chope, a junior environment minister, said in a written reply that homeowners providing bed and breakfast had asked for a more generous exemption.

The exemption now applied only where beds were provided for up to 99 days a year.

Beaches bill

A bill to control beaches was given an unopposed first reading, but has little chance of passing. John McFall (Dundee, Lab) presenting the bill, said it would require signs on all designated beaches saying whether they reached stated water qualities.

Road deaths

Provisional estimates are that 109 people were killed on pedestrian crossings last year and 4,978 were injured.

Mr Robert Atkins, roads and traffic minister, said in a Commons written reply.

Motorways

Since 1979 a total of 285 miles of motorway have been completed and 30 miles of existing motorway widened.

Mr Robert Atkins, roads and traffic minister, said in a Commons written reply.

Tunnel traffic

The Channel tunnel is likely to be used by 10,000 vehicles a day in 1993, rising to 14,000 in 2008. Mr Roger Freeman, public transport minister, said in a Commons written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office; prime minister. Debates on training and on low-income statistics.

Lords (3): National Health Service and Community Care bill, report, third day.

Kinnock sounds election alert

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock alerted his MPs yesterday to the possibility of an early general election as they began debating the policy document that will form the basis of Labour's next manifesto.

He said the warning, which avoids specific commitments, had been chosen deliberately to avoid giving the Conservative ammunition in their attempts to cost Labour's programme.

Mr Radice said that the income tax proposals might need further refining to ensure that they could withstand the inevitable Tory onslaught during the election campaign.

Ken Livingstone, MP for Brent East, surprised many of his colleagues by welcoming the decision not to increase the tax burden on families with two incomes in the middle range.

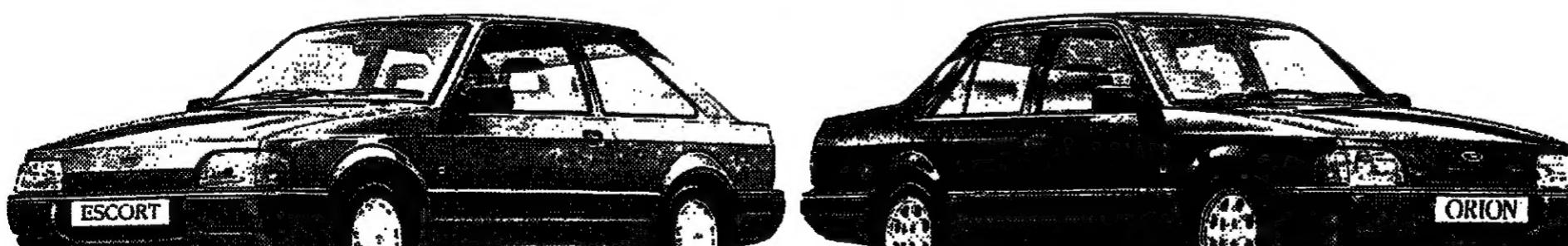
His call for defence spending to be halved over the lifetime of a parliament to free money for spending programmes was firmly rejected by Mr Smith. Labour would not spend a penny more than necessary on defence, he said, but the party could not simply cut the budget and undermine staple industries such as aerospace, without gradually converting some of such firms to non-military manufacturing.

Austin Mitchell, MP for Great Grimsby, questioned the party's pro-European stance and in particular its support for early membership of the exchange-rate mechanism of the European Monetary System. He argued that entering the ERM too soon would shake a future Labour government.

Mr Smith told him there was nothing socialist about allowing the free market to determine the value of sterling.

Brian Gould, the shadow environment spokesman, rejected

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£147.35 £198.47 £213.63 £270.45

£909.76 £1225.47 £1318.98 £1669.76

Total Credit Price £7469.76 £10660.47 £10828.98 £13709.60

7.9% (APR 15.1%)

Initial Payment (Min 20%) £1312.00 £1767.00 £1902.00 £2408.00

£143.88 £193.78 £208.59 £264.08

£1650.24 £2233.44 £2404.32 £3043.84

Total Credit Price £8218.24 £11066.44 £11914.32 £15093.84

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misses without delay. In presenting the proposals at the arms talks in Geneva yesterday, US officials rejected suggestions that the United States had

that the US demands of agencies balked at the idea of challenge inspections of facilities

inspections will be limited to a few sites, and this could

missiles owned by West Germany

Days of deal in South Africa strike



A crowd of miners demonstrates at the headquarters of the Chamber of Mines, the organisation of South African mine owners.

wore a baseball cap supporting the Chicago Cubs. "Chicago," he said. "My kind of town."

After an hour of tumult, the heavens opened, a rare enough occurrence in a city usually now

giving up their songs.

proved the ar-

move," yelled a steward. There was a general groan, but the miners filed across the plaza.

As they loitered in a drizzle, the doors of the Chamber opened. Mr Ramaphosa emerged, and was

boisted shoulder high. After four

hours, the talk

resumed. It will resu-

concession to the 30 per cent wage demand, but produced an improved package on holidays and death benefits. Mr Ramaphosa agreed that the employees had come up with an offer of improved employment con-

student leader in the Daveyton township east of here

The Independent, 26th August, 1987.

DO WE SOMETIMES WISH WE HADN'T FOUGHT TO HAVE BLACK TRADE UNIONS RECOGNISED?

Yes, to be honest, we do quite often.

Because black South Africans have had no voice politically, the unions have quite rightly exercised theirs pretty loudly.

For many years, the government refused to recognise black unions at all.

Anglo American, South Africa's biggest mining group, campaigned constantly for the abolition of this policy.

In 1974, Harry Oppenheimer, a former Chairman, urged other companies to join us in going ahead and dealing with the black trade unions, even though they were unrecognised by the government.

In 1979, the government gave way. Union rights for black workers were at last conceded.

Anglo American recognised and negotiated, just months after its establishment, with the National Union of Mineworkers, when the union only really represented 5% of our workers.

Other mining companies followed our lead. Life has not always been easy since then.

In 1987, for example, our gold and coal mines experienced a costly and disruptive strike.

So why have we pushed so hard for black trade union rights?

For very sound commercial, as well as moral, reasons.

However tough pay bargaining gets, it is much better to deal with representatives of a stable workforce through recognised machinery.

Today, we remain committed to working with the unions in a joint effort to build up the South African economy.

Our mines are now the most highly unionised in South Africa.

In terms of pay, workers get the same rate

for the same job, irrespective of race or colour. All can benefit from our free, voluntary share scheme.

In the metal and paper industries, we bargain with unions representing workers of all colours.

In these industries, we have worked with the unions to get rid of the industrial colour bar.

In the metal industry, together with other employers, we operate health, holiday and retirement funds.

And in 1989, with the National Union of Mineworkers, we helped to create the largest contributory Provident Fund in South African history for the benefit of all black miners.

Conflicts about a fair wage and good working conditions may continue. But we at Anglo American share a belief:

Whether you're running a company or a country, if the majority have no share or say in their future, they will understandably feel no responsibility for what happens around them.

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Poll results in Algeria bring Islamic state nearer

From SUSAN MACDONALD IN ALGIERS

AN ISLAMIC state in Algeria was brought a step closer yesterday with the shock news that the Islamic Salvation Front (Fis) appears to have won Algeria's first multi-party local elections.

With the final results still to be announced, Mohamed Mohammedi, the interior minister, says partial results showed an Islamic Front "pre-eminence" immediately followed by the ruling National Liberation Front party (FLN).

Of the nine other parties fielding candidates for councils all over Algeria, only the Cultural and Democratic Assembly, with its main base among the Berber people, managed to get a majority vote on a few councils in the Kabylie region.

Although the FLN has ruled with an iron hand for 28 years since independence from France, the Fis has worked long and hard in the mosques.

The Islamic Salvation Front president, Abbassi Madani, a university professor imprisoned by the authorities during the 1980s for activities against the state, walked to a victory

Shamir tries to shed hard image

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S new right-wing government, led by Yitzhak Shamir, yesterday set out to counter allegations that it is extremist and anti-peace by making its first foreign policy act an invitation to Jean-Claude Aime, adviser on Middle East affairs to Javier Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-general, to visit the country.

Moledet, one of the far-right parties on which Mr Shamir now depends for his majority, immediately denounced the invitation as "a surrender to the insolent demands of Israel's enemies".

Government ministers making their first appearance in offices yesterday made clear that the new administration would be as hardline as predicted. Mr Shamir said the proposed visit by M Aime was very different from the kind of full-scale UN investigation demanded by the Arab world in the wake of severe riots caused by the killing of seven Arab labourers by a lone Israeli gunman at the end of last month.

Mr Shamir hardened Israel's position on the peace process by saying Israel could only make peace with Palestinians who accepted the Israeli concept of "autonomy" or limited self-rule. This is a concept which all credible Palestinian leaders have already rejected.

Mr Shamir's announcement, coupled with the assertion that a Palestinian settlement was possible only if combined with an overall peace between Israel and the Arab world, deepened the gloom of United States diplomats. Their approach until the collapse of the Likud-Labour coalition of "national unity" three months ago had been based on the step-by-step achievement of direct Israeli-Palestinian talks in Cairo.

Mr Shamir's tough line also brought condemnation from leaders of the *Netanya* and from Mr Shimon Peres, leader of the Labour Opposition, who said Mr Shamir's remarks, made to the *Jerusalem Post*, meant "the end of the peace process". Mr Shamir's supporters said the US-sponsored peace process, as advanced by James Baker, the US Secretary of State, was already in difficulty because of the impending disruption of Washington's talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation after the latter's failure to condemn in specific terms the recent Palestinian sea-borne attack on a packed Israeli beach.

The new right-wing government won a vote of confidence in the Knesset by 62 votes to 57 on Monday night. It is dominated by figures such as Ariel Sharon, the combative former general, who as housing minister will have a strong say in the sensitive issue of Jewish settlements. Yesterday Moshe Arens, who has moved from the foreign ministry to defence, made his first act in office a symbolic tour of the hardline Jewish settlement of Ariel on the West Bank. He said it was no coincidence that he had gone there. His aim was to make it understood that ensuring the safety of Jewish settlers was one of the new government's priorities.

press conference in the Cinema Africaine in the town.

A throng of young men chanted his name while, from the balconies above, people shouted their support as Professor Madani arrived.

Sitting above a banner reading "Islam, the only solution", Professor Madani, dressed in pristine white *jellaba* and fine-crocheted skullcap, first thanked the interior minister for organising free and fair elections before expounding on the "new world" to which the Algerians had awakened yesterday.

Even interior ministry officials and police officers appeared overjoyed that the yoke of the FLN had finally been broken. Many people undoubtedly voted for the Fis out of vengeance.

Professor Madani said the next step was the dissolution of the Algerian national assembly and the holding of legislative elections within the following three months.

Would he demand the resignation of President Chadli? Professor Madani said that the president, too, had a role to play.

Constitutionally the president could dissolve the national assembly. If he did not, a referendum on the subject could be called.

Was Professor Madani ready to meet the authorities? As soon as possible, he replied. "We do not have an appointment with the regime, but we do with destiny. I do not see how a regime which has shown such responsibility in allowing people to express their wishes could now bar the dissolution of the national assembly in preparation for national elections."

If he did not get satisfaction from the authorities, he was asked, would he bring the people out on to the streets? "The people are already mobilised," he replied to great applause.

At the mention of a possible army coup now, he said: "The army voted for us – how can they confront us?" It has been rumoured for some time that junior army officers were pro-Fis despite army generals' warnings against them.

It was not true that the Islamic Front was against women, he was told. He would guarantee that committees set up to study "feminine questions" would take women's interests to heart.

The election victory, he added, was achieved in large part with the Muslim women's vote. In fact the new constitution and electoral law, introduced by the government following serious rioting in 1988, still allows men a proxy vote on behalf of their wives, which, it is thought, had favoured the Fis.

Asked if he was prepared to "cohabit" with other political parties, he said Algeria was moving towards an economic, political and intellectual renewal of its society. "How can there be a renewal without an opposition?" he asked. "There is no eternal regime. The chance for change must be left open. If we are on the right road, it is the people's duty to follow us. If we commit errors, it is their duty to combat us. Therefore an opposition must exist."

One of the most important questions being asked now is how the Islamic Salvation Front victory, at local level will influence Algeria's neighbours, Tunisia and Morocco. Professor Madani said the Islamic Front had no wish to exert pressures on neighbouring regimes. But the victory will undoubtedly give hope to the outlawed Islamic fundamentalist groupings in Morocco and the Islamic party in Tunisia.

Within minutes the Berger brigade spotted one of the vans being driven through a nearby township. Police on



Señora Menem and her daughter, Zulemita, wave to reporters after being barred from the presidential palace

Cairo goes mad over Cup draw with Dutch

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

UNDERDOG football fever spread from Cameroon to the Middle East yesterday as the Arab world seized on Egypt's unexpected 1-1 draw with The Netherlands, the European champions, as an excuse for a狂躁 mood of euphoria to replace the despondency of recent years.

The early-morning sky over Cairo was lit by fireworks and the streets echoed with firecrackers until dawn as hundreds of thousands of people poured outside in disbelief to mark the country's performance in its first World Cup game for 56 years.

Cars with half-naked youths hanging out of windows shouting "Allah-o Akbar" (God is Greatest) blocked the main streets, horns being honked in rhythm. They were joined by donkey carts with delirious supporters dancing on the back and motorcycles carrying four or more celebrants waving the national flag. Even the Metro trains blew their whistles in time with the deafening cacophony.

Diplomatic observers who were caught up in the all-night jubilation said it was no coincidence that front-page stories in the Cairo press lauding the mainly part-time footballers as the new "pharaohs" ran alongside bellicose challenges to the new right-wing Israeli government over its alleged threat of a new Middle East war.

President Mubarak, who told the team before their departure they were on a patriotic mission, was quick to send a telegram congratulating the squad, who began their training with a mini-pilgrimage to Mecca and had few problems with fans drinking alcohol, which is barred under Islamic law.

"You captured the imagination of your people, who followed with care and interest your efforts to make Egypt's name stand up high in the World Cup matches," the president enthused after he watched the match on television. "You were a picture of pride for Egypt's youth."

Within hours of the final whistle, the elusive goal of Arab unity was emerging as a theme of the result. King Hussein of Jordan telephoned Mr Mubarak to praise the performance and Arab air-liners overflying Egyptian airspace sent a string of congratulatory radio messages to Cairo airport.

In Bahrain, Hisham Al-Ashqar, a celebrating Egyptian agricultural engineer, said: "People here, Arab hosts and Egyptian guests alike, are thirsty for victory, to offset the mental depression created by political, economic and military failures."

In an effort to encourage the squad to continue its success when it meets Ireland and England next week, one Egyptian businessman offered publicly to donate the equivalent of £1 million to be shared if they reach the last 16. He was swiftly matched by another

who offered each player a villa to live in if they won a place in the quarter-finals.

"Why should we go to sleep? We have not had much to celebrate for years, life has been very hard for us," explained the leader of a sweating group of dancing youths in flowing *galabiyas*, beating tambourines on a corner of July 26 Street at 3am. "We have shown that we are as good as the best in the world."

Among the recent hardships he referred to were shortages of sugar and rice, now only available on the black market, and sweeping subsidy cuts ordered in an austerity package last month which added 133 per cent to the cost of cooking gas, 60 per cent to the price of petrol, and made each packet of cigarettes 20 per cent more expensive.

"Thank God, thank God," said another young man. "It is true we drew with Holland, but with that match we consider ourselves to have won the World Cup."

During play, the normally jammed streets of Cairo were eerily deserted in a way elderly residents said they could not remember for decades.

There were bizarre scenes in the crowded suburbs of Abassia, where one of the regular power cuts struck just after kick-off. "Thousands of people, many dressed in pyjamas and house coats, took to the streets in search of a television that was working," an onlooker said. "It was an extraordinary sight."

Private flying squads take off

From GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

EFFECTIVELY, if expensively, the manager of a Johannesburg transport company is combating crime using her own flying squad. When Gaylene Bischof-Berger discovered that two vans and clothing worth £40,000 had been stolen from her firm's depot in the northern suburbs she promptly hired a helicopter from a local airport, invited the police along, and set off in pursuit.

Within minutes the Berger brigade spotted one of the vans being driven through a nearby township. Police on

the ground were alerted by radio and two men were arrested. Three other suspects were detained later and the second van was recovered. The £400 cost of hiring the helicopter for 90 minutes was considered money well spent. Mrs Bischof-Berger apparently acted on standing company instructions rather than her own initiative.

Private "hot pursuit" has become quite routine in crime-ridden Johannesburg. A spokesman for Ancom Aviation, owner of the helicopter, said such missions were undertaken almost daily. "We advise companies to paint some kind of identification on the roofs of their vehicles, and as a result we have a pretty good success rate. The police do not appear to have the resources, but they are quite happy to come along."

It is hoped that the police force, from which 800 disengaged members are resigning each month, will be strengthened by the big pay increases announced by Adrián Vlok, the law and order minister, on Tuesday night. Mr Vlok said more than £50 million would be spent on raising the pay of the 75,000-member force by as much as 80 per cent. Another £25 million would go on recruiting 10,000 personnel in the next year.

Señora Menem, aged 47, who had vowed never to leave the residence, was barred from Olivos upon returning from a Buenos Aires court, where she had been summoned to testify in a case linked with a political smear campaign.

Accompanied by her children and surrounded by reporters asking her questions, Señora Menem criticised her husband and complained of the "pitiful image we are giving the world". She said: "This is an abuse of power."

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

WILDLIFE campaigners trying to save a fast-disappearing species of porpoise are the latest conservationists to come knocking on Japan's door. They want the government to think twice about Japan's controversial fishing practices.

Allan Thornton, head of the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency, but speaking on behalf of 35 environmentalist groups from around the world, told the press here yesterday that at least two-thirds of the population of Dall's porpoises that live in two colonies off northern Japan have been killed over the past three years.

He said unrestricted fishing has netted 44,000 of the rare porpoises in Japanese waters since 1987.

In a letter to Toshiki Kaifu, Japan's prime minister, the agency called for a suspension of hunts for at least a year to

allow the numbers to grow. The letter said: "Japanese scientists have been warning that these populations will become extinct unless urgent action is taken to end the killing."

The visit is part of a wider campaign to protect all dolphins, porpoises and small whales from drift net and other fishing methods. It also wants to persuade the International Whaling Commission to add these small cetaceans to its list of endangered mammals, alongside the protection of the 10 largest species of whales.

Mr Thornton said that Japan was not the only country to blame, but it was one of the bigger culprits. Japan's dolphin catches have risen since 1985, when commercial whaling was banned by the commission. Under American pressure, Japan joined the ban in 1988.

But whaling still finds its way on to Japanese fishmongers' slabs. Some of the

Burmese junta hedges over power transfer

From MARY KAY MAGISTAD IN RANGOON

THE post-election jubilation in Burma of almost three weeks ago has turned into subdued public discontent as the military junta continues to fudge on when and how it will hand over power.

Returns from the May 27 general election, Burma's first in 30 years, continue to trickle in. The junta had promised to announce final results by this Sunday and to "restore democracy" in the shortest time possible.

Trying to pin down exactly when this might be yields only woolly government responses.

The ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) has already officially acknowledged that the National League for Democracy (NLD) has won a firm majority of the 492 national assembly seats.

But restoration council officials say they will only hand over power to a league government after the national assembly convenes and drafts an acceptable "new constitution". They have already made some broad hints that they expect this to be a protracted process.

Western diplomats in Rangoon say the council is stalling for time and that its officials are genuinely bewildered by the big no-confidence vote against it. The pro-government National Unity party has won less than 10 national assembly seats.

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In case the message is not clear, many Burmese in Rangoon say, the junta's intelligence network is still operating with a vengeance.

Rangoon residents say pro-democracy activists are still being followed and their activities noted. One NLD candidate was arrested on the eve of the election and has not been seen since.

"It gets tiring," said one activist. "What do we have to do in this case to get democracy?"

For now, the NLD is bidding its time. Kyi Maung, its urbane spokesman and central committee member, said there was no point in rushing to push the council into a corner.

"There is a clear mandate from the people now and SLORC has recognised that," he said. "So it has to tie up its own affairs, and then give us the information we need to govern the country properly."

Restoration council leaders do not necessarily see it that way. Almost three weeks after the much-touted "free and fair" election, they have not yet agreed to meet their NLD counterparts.

One Western diplomat, based in Rangoon, said: "It has come down to a shadow dance between the NLD and SLORC. SLORC is scrambling to figure out how it can surrender the appearance of power while clinging to the substance."

Hanoi warned of tough action on boat people

By ANDREW MC EWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN and six Asian nations have warned Vietnam that they will abolish the right of boat people to land in Hong Kong and other ports unless Hanoi agrees to allow the countries to use force to send the would-be refugees back.

A formal document, called a d閘鑑, was delivered to the Vietnamese foreign ministry on Monday by a senior Philippines official acting for the seven. A similar warning is to be delivered to the State Department in Washington later this week or next.

The two documents are the diplomatic equivalent of serving final notice before taking drastic action. The moves follow signs that a meeting of 29 nations, planned for June 25 in Geneva, may be called off because of lack of progress.

Neither Hanoi nor Washington appears ready to drop its opposition to boat people being sent back to Vietnam against their will, which Britain refers to as mandatory repatriation.

The seven want Vietnam to accept that moderate force may have to be used to put

boat people on to aircraft. Hanoi initially accepted this, but changed its mind last November after an outcry which followed the force used to make 51 boat people return to Hanoi. The United States has consistently opposed such methods on human rights grounds.

The main impetus for the warnings has come from the Association of South-East Asian Nations, made up of six non-communist countries – Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The brunt of the boat people problem has fallen on them since Hong Kong began taking tougher measures to deter boat people from landing, with the Indonesians having suffered the biggest influx.

● BANGKOK: Ung Phan, the Cambodian transport minister, is among at least six senior government officials and army officers arrested and accused of trying to form a rival political party, the American human rights group, Asia Watch, said. (AP)

Japan blamed for porpoise deaths

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

WILDLIFE campaigners trying to save a fast-disappearing species of porpoise are the latest conservationists to come knocking on Japan's door. They want the government to think twice about Japan's controversial fishing practices.

Allan Thornton, head of the London-based Environmental Investigation Agency, but speaking on behalf of 35 environmentalist groups from around the world, told the press here yesterday that at least two-thirds of the population of Dall's porpoises that live in two colonies off northern Japan have been killed over the past three years.

He said unrestricted fishing has netted 44,000 of the rare porpoises in Japanese waters

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East's reform socialists have no winning cards to play

From ROGER BOVES
IN SOFIA

SOFIA was Naples for a night. Teenagers, yelling "victory" hurtled through the city streets until the early hours, honking horns and leaning out of car windows to wave the blue banners of the Bulgarian opposition. They behaved as if they had won a football match, but in truth the revellers of Sofia, stoked up by an election rally, had won nothing.

The Bulgarian revolution was not of their making. It was an engineered takeover, designed to keep a debilitated communist party in power. The free and more or less fair election on Sunday was supposed to legitimise this takeover and create a basis for sharing power either with the Agrarians or with the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF). Moscow was consulted, and was perhaps deeply involved in the removal of Todor Zhivkov last November. As in Romania, reformists in the foreign and defence

ministries were the chief players in the plot to change the man at the top. As in Romania, the Bulgarian *putchists* were trying to head off a popular explosion.

The Balkans, then, are different. In front of Dimitrov's mausoleum, tens of thousands of the party faithful waved flags, with their distinctive straight-armed pendulum motion, without embarrassment. In Bucharest, the National Salvation Front is emerging plainly as a socialist organisation of the old school.

The other East European revolutions made use of reformed socialists, and then discarded them. They were bridges from the old order; their purpose was to surrender power peacefully.

Egon Krenz, Imre Pozsgay, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, were of the same generation and had a common language with Mikhail Gorbachev. President Ion Iliescu of Romania and President Petar Mladenov of Bulgaria are of a similar hue – and have no intention of becoming rulers of

the interregnum. For them elections complete a revolutionary cycle; a victory for their brand of socialism means a go-ahead for cautious market reform à la Gorbachev; it sets the terms of any coalition brokered with the opposition; it opens the way for Western aid.

The question is then whether the West, and specifically Britain, should give its support to Eastern Europe, as if all the upheavals of 1989 and 1990 were on a par. There is a strong case for differentiating between popular and "steered" revolutions. That means first identifying a specific national interest.

Britain gets a good showing in Bulgarian school books because of its support for the country's early struggle for nationhood. But it would be wrong to assume that the British interest today in the Balkans is a mere extension of 1876, a commitment to national independence in the east.

There is no second "liberation" in Bulgaria. Whereas there were anti-Soviet

traces in the other East European revolutions, in Bulgaria there remains a great warmth for the Russians. It is not just a question of the Russians having uncoupled the Bulgarians from the Turks – there is an inter-twining of popular culture (most Bulgarians watch Soviet television) and language.

The fate of the reformed socialists of Bulgaria and Romania hangs on the survival of Gorbachev. That is not a liberation; it is an interregnum. Zhecho Zhecho, the United Democratic Forces opposition leader, explicitly warned that "the defeat of Gorbachev and his replacement by conservative forces could well be repeated here".

Does it make sense for the West to invest political capital in the reformed socialists of the Balkans when their destinies are so tied to that of Gorbachev? The rest of East Europe would suffer, too, from Gorbachev's overthrow but not, perhaps, fatally. In a year's time Soviet influence in European

affairs should be much reduced. Gorbachev's importance will be correspondingly diluted. Crudely and cynically expressed, Gorbachev might even be dispensable.

Western interests in East Europe should, therefore, be aimed at making the region immune from Mr Gorbachev. The revolution of 1989 must be able to outlive the political career of the Soviet leader. The restructuring of institutions, the establishment of firm democratic laws and the introduction of a market economy is a process in which the West, and Britain in particular, can legitimately become involved.

There will be a temptation though, to extend the aid blanket to the Balkans if only to maintain a kind of stability in southeast Europe. The Bulgarian opposition, playing election games, recently misquoted Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, as saying that Britain would not give aid to Bulgaria if the communists won the election. There were

furious denials (known as "corrections") from the Foreign Office.

Yet the denied, unspoken thought is probably the correct one. The Bulgarian and the Romanian regimes are inherently unstable not because of the customary clichés about the Balkans but because of the short-tenure, reform socialists running the country. The Bulgarian socialist leadership, for all its talk about market reform, has only two cards to play and they are both marked.

The first is to project itself as the party of the nation. Second, the communists say they are the defenders of the weak. The nationalist strand to this programme will drive the party sooner or later into new confrontations with the Turkish minority. And the social welfare commitment will drag Bulgaria away from the necessary market therapy.

Reform socialists have had their day. Western involvement, a dangerous matter at the best of times, should not be in the business of repairing broken idols.

East German tip-off leads to seizure of terror suspect

From JAN MURRAY IN BONN

FOR the second time this month, a tip-off from an East German has led to the arrest of one of the woman terrorist suspects most wanted by the West German authorities.

Ing Viett, a former kindergarten teacher, wanted for murder, robbery, jail-breaking and kidnapping for the past 15 years, was arrested by the East German police in Magdeburg early on Tuesday morning. She was unarmed and offered no resistance.

Peter-Michael Diestel, the East German interior minister, said it was another example of the growing collaboration between the forces of law and order of both countries as reunification approaches.

Posters showing pictures of wanted terrorists have been

Free poll demanded by Serbs

From REUTER
IN BELGRADE

A CROWD of 30,000 anti-communist protesters blocked a central Belgrade avenue yesterday and demanded that free elections be held in Serbia, the biggest Yugoslav republic, by the end of the year.

Chanting "down with communism" and "elections now", they marched down Terzijev Avenue to the Serbian parliament to give the authorities a petition demanding the polls. Free elections were held in the republics of Slovenia and Croatia in April and May, but Serbia has stalled on allowing democratic reforms, saying ballots could not be held until next year.

The protest was organised by Serbia's five main opposition groups, including the powerful Serbian Renewal Movement, a party with a strong nationalist philosophy. Vuk Draskovic, the movement's leader, told the crowd: "There will be free elections by the end of the year. I guarantee it."

Political analysts consider Mr Draskovic, a novelist and former journalist, to be the most serious threat to Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president. The show of strength by anti-communist protesters could be a big blow to Mr Milosevic's authority, hitherto almost absolute.

Outside parliament, the demonstrators chanted "Slobodan, you are a traitor" and "Communists come out".

Banners brandished by the demonstrators carried slogans such as "Communists, are you sorry that the end is at hand?", "We want elections, not conflicts", and "We want democratic elections now". Hundreds of local people leaned from windows and stood on nearby rooftops to watch.

The Serbian Communist party, in an apparent attempt to counter criticism, said on Monday it would merge with the Socialist Alliance, a communist front organisation, into a new Socialist party, which would compete in elections. But the move provoked anger at yesterday's rally.

"We will not allow the Communist Party and the Socialist Alliance to dance the lambada with state funds," said Vojin Vuletic, president of the Liberal party.

"We are holding this rally to force the Communists to hold elections," said Kosta Cavoski, the Democratic party leader. "For 45 years the Communists have shamelessly taken our freedom. Their end is drawing near."

Western diplomats said the turnout was surprisingly large and showed that people had ignored pleas by communist officials and state television for a boycott.

put up in East Germany in recent days and it is possible she was recognised by one of her neighbours in Magdeburg, who tipped off the West German police that she was living for the past two years under the assumed name of Eva Schnell, working in a steel plant. Before that, she lived in Dresden as Eva-Maria Sonnen.

The tip-off was probably encouraged by the offer of 50,000 marks for information leading to her arrest – although she had once been "valued" at 100,000 marks by police, the size of the reward dropped as time passed and nothing was heard of her.

Last week Susanne Albrecht, wanted since 1977 for her alleged part in the killing of her godfather, a leading banker, was caught after a tip-off, probably from a Stasi secret police agent who knew she had been living in East Germany for 10 years. Both women, members of the extremist Red Army Faction, are expected to be handed over soon to the West German authorities to stand trial.

Fran Viett is wanted principally for the murder in 1974 of Günter von Drenkmann, a leading Berlin judge and the abduction a year later of Peter Lorenz, leader of the Christian Democrats in West Berlin. Now aged 46, nothing had been heard of her since 1978 and it is believed that she "disappeared" into East Germany with Stasi connivance.

Before joining the faction, she was a member of the June 2 Movement, named after the date when a student was killed by a police bullet in 1967 at a demonstration against the Shah of Iran. As a member of that group, she is alleged to have been involved in the bombing of a British yacht in Berlin-Gatow in February 1972, when a boat builder was killed.

She is also wanted for involvement in five bank robberies and for helping to organise two jail breaks in West Berlin in 1976 and 1978.

Fran Viett is also wanted, under an international warrant, for shooting and seriously wounding a Paris policeman in August 1981.

Soviet hierarchy fights party split

From NICK WORRALL IN MOSCOW

WORRIED Soviet Communists party leaders are preparing to fight to head off potential rifts and fragmentation in party ranks at the crucial 28th party congress due to open in Moscow on July 2.

Vladimir Medvedev, the party's ideology chief, told a Moscow press conference yesterday that the top party organs, including the Politburo, "were making all efforts to prevent fragmentation before, during and after the congress".

It has been revealed that on Monday he told a gathering of senior Communist leaders nationally that the new party will be formally established next Tuesday, a central committee elected and a first secretary chosen. He did not say whether he planned to stand as a candidate.

Nor has his rival, Boris Yeltsin, the federal president, indicated his intentions.

Russia, the largest of the Soviet Union's 15 republics, will supply 58 per cent of congress delegates.

Mr Gorbachev is reported as saying: "For this reason, my colleagues have asked me to say to everybody that Russia has no secrets. (The formation of) the Russian Communist party means a strengthening of the Soviet Union and of the Soviet Communist party."

It is not clear why the Soviet leader, who fiercely opposed the breakup of the international communist movement in the past year, all eyes will focus on the formation in Moscow next week of a separate Communist party for the vast Russian

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Block on aid to Moscow

By ANDREW McEWEN

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN has considered giving large-scale aid to the Soviet Union but appears unlikely to go ahead with it.

The government has also decided not to help Romania or Bulgaria for the time being.

The chief negotiators at a plenary session are to examine new definitions of tanks and armoured troop-carriers that appear to resolve the remaining difficulties that in recent months have slowed the talks.

Ministers were asked for their views on British aid to Moscow after signs that the West German government was preparing to assist it.

After her talks with President Gorbachev last week, Margaret Thatcher is understood to have been willing to consider the possibility, although it is unclear whether he had made such a request.

The advice from the Foreign Office and the Overseas Development Administration has been to make no moves as yet. The Foreign Office would want to see further changes in the Soviet Union, probably including full multi-party elections, before giving aid.

Lynda Chalker, minister for overseas development, believes that any British aid would be like pouring money into a bottomless pit.

The Soviet Union's economic problems are considered so severe that it might be unwise even to establish the principle of aid.

If Britain followed the German lead it would be on a smaller scale, intended more as a political gesture.

There has also been discussion of a possible European Community aid package for the Soviet Union, but the signs are that both West Germany and France prefer to manage their own schemes.

Hope of Vienna armaments deal

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

CONCESSIONS by both sides at the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) talks in Vienna could today lead to an agreement on all the heavy armaments covered by the negotiations.

The chief negotiators at a plenary session are to examine new definitions of tanks and armoured troop-carriers that appear to resolve the remaining difficulties that in recent months have slowed the talks.

Ministers were asked for their views on British aid to Moscow after signs that the West German government was preparing to assist it.

There remains some scepticism that an agreement on aircraft and helicopters will be possible in time for a treaty to be signed by the end of the year.

In her statement this week on her talks with President Gorbachev, the prime minister told the House of Commons: "It is possible that aircraft may not be dealt with in the first round."

The imminent agreement on armaments has nevertheless given new hope to the negotiators that some of the main elements of a treaty are now about to be agreed. If the plenary meeting approves the compromises, which were first suggested at the talks between James Baker, the US Secretary of State, and Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, in Moscow, and followed up at the Washington summit, the deal on armaments will, in outline, be:

• On tanks, which are to be limited to 30,000 on each side, a complex series of sub-limits have been drawn up. For example, there will be a ceiling of 18,000 armoured infantry fighting vehicles and 1,500 heavy armoured vehicles. The West wanted a lower figure for infantry fighting vehicles but Moscow would not yield.

• On artillery, agreement was reached last year on the definition. It embraces everything with a calibre greater than 100mm. There is still some bickering over ceilings. The West wants the limit to be 16,500, the East 20,000. NATO recently re-counted all the artillery deployed in the area to be covered by a CFE Treaty, from the Atlantic to the Ural Mountains, and arrived at 18,000.

"So we told the Warsaw Pact negotiators that there was not much point in fixing the ceiling at a level that was higher than Nato's present total," an official said.

Fax Europe, page 14

Founding father of Civic Forum bows out

From PETER GREEN IN PRAGUE

JAN Urban, the chairman of Civic Forum, said yesterday. Last weekend Czechoslovakia held its first free parliamentary elections for 44 years when 22 parties competed, and Civic Forum emerged the clear winner, with

more than 46 per cent of the vote, and the majority of the seats in parliament. Commenting on last Saturday's election results Mr Urban said: "I feel a big part of my life is ending. It is only today

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Former aide to Pinochet joins call for him to quit

From A CORRESPONDENT IN SANTIAGO

A FORMER senior presidential aide of Augusto Pinochet has joined the growing public demand for his resignation as commander-in-chief of Chile's armed forces, after the discovery of 20 bodies in a mass grave.

The former dictator is being accused of responsibility for the killing of the 20 whose mummified bodies were found in Pisagua, a fishing village on the edge of the Atacama desert.

Honorio Toro, head of the civil police, has joined the Chilean left and number of retired generals in their efforts to remove General Pinochet.

General Toro, a retired soldier, was appointed to the police post by President Patricio Aylwin when he assumed the office in March.

When asked on national television if General Pinochet should resign for any indirect responsibility for what occurred in Pisagua, General Toro said bluntly: "In my opinion, yes."

His view carries weight because he initially backed the coup that overthrew the left-wing government of Salvador Allende in 1973. General Toro was then a member of a special military committee advising General Pinochet.

More than 1,000 demonstrators marched through central Santiago on Tuesday, demanding General Pinochet's resignation. The national police, who in the past repressed such demonstrations, did not intervene.

The Pisagua grave, 1,000 miles north of Santiago, has created a political storm, forcing the general — who has maintained a silence over his role in the affair — on to the defensive and bringing him politically to his lowest point since the 1973 coup.

However, General Toro's

Eta kills colonel in street

Madrid — A retired army colonel who testified in several trials against members of the Basque separatist organisation Eta was shot dead by a young gunman in a street ambush in San Sebastian (Juan Carlos Gomucio writes).

Police identified the victim as Colonel Jose Lasanta Martinez, aged 71. He died instantly of head wounds caused by a single automatic pistol shot.

Investigators said the attack had all the indications of a revenge attack by the terrorist. The attacker fled on foot.

Peking promise
Peking — China promised to find jobs for all 40,000 graduates of Peking universities this year, a policy diplomats said was intended to win support from students who joined political protests last year. (Reuters)

Youth freed

Avignon — French police have released the last of six youths detained in connection with the desecration of a Jewish cemetery in the southern town of Carpentras in which a corpse was dragged from its grave. (Reuters)

Paper protest

Lagos — Nigerian newspaper owners, editors and journalists boycotted a meeting yesterday with the Information Minister, Tony Momoh, in protest at a government arrest of journalists and the closing of newspapers. (Reuters)

Britons flee

Moscow — Twenty Britons and their Liberian families left here for Sierra Leone in a road convoy as the diplomatic corps protested to the government of the beleaguered Liberian President Samuel Doe over continuing killings of Liberians and foreign nationals. (AFP)

Opium boast

Mae Sariang, Thailand — The heroin operation of the warlord Khun Sa has produced 2,200 tonnes of opium this year, most of which is being smuggled to the United States via Thailand, an aide claimed. (Reuters)

Drugs blitz

Madrid — Spanish police claim to have smashed a drug ring with connections with Colombia's Medellin cartel arresting 18 suspects in what a spokesman described as the most important anti-drug operation in the country's history.



Happy returns President Bush, with Carol Vander Jagt, the wife of a Michigan congressman, applauding the entertainers at a Republican fund-raising event in Washington who marked his 65th birthday with a song

Sri Lanka ceasefire in tatters

From VIJITHA YAPA
IN COLOMBO

FIGHTING continued between the security forces and the rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka yesterday as reports came in that policemen had been massacred.

Earlier this week, Senior Rojas had separate meetings with General Pinochet, Admiral Busch, and Gabriel Ormeño, inspector-general of the national police. Senior Rojas asked them to inform the government on the location of more mass graves.

In a move that undermined the government's caution on the human rights issue, Senior Rojas waited 24 hours before revealing the contents of his meeting with the military officials.

The government's line has been to let the courts decide the fate of army officers involved in the Pisagua killings.

Two of those officers are General Carlos Foresier, head of the army's 6th Division, quartered in Iquique, and Mario Acuña, an army judge who sentenced many of the victims to death in Pisagua.

Enrique Krause, the minister of internal affairs, said the government "wants to know the truth which will eventually have to be deposited in courts".

The government has nevertheless offered to foot the cost of building a mausoleum in Santiago's main public cemetery and is considering declaring a day of national mourning in honour of the 20 victims, who included six people arrested on charges of drug dealing and had supposedly been set free by military tribunals.

The tribunals summarily condemned the victims to death by firing squad for subversion or attempted escape. Relatives and Santiago human rights organisations say the charges had been fabricated. More than 30 people were executed by firing squads in Pisagua in 1973 and 1974.

Fines for animal militants

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

FRANCE'S first big trial involving animal rights activists ended yesterday in the conviction of seven members of a commando which stole 17 baboons from a government-backed research centre.

Among the seven, all given suspended sentences of between eight and 12 months and fined a total of 348,000 francs (£35,000) was an official of the foundation established by Brigitte Bardot, the actress, to campaign against medical experiments on animals.

The seven immediately announced that they would appeal. They can probably expect strong moral support from Brigitte Bardot in St-Tropez, who has become France's most outspoken animal rights advocate. She was herself before a judge earlier this year giving evidence in a case involving a ring which supplied dogs for vivisection.

Last month she was back in the headlines after she sent an impassioned letter to the minister of agriculture attacking him for not stopping French farmers from herding sheep into the centre of Paris to help make their make a point during a demonstration. Yes

Mandela appeal for EC sanctions to remain

From MICHAEL BINYON IN STRASBOURG

NELSON Mandela yesterday appealed to the European Parliament to persuade European Community leaders not to lift sanctions at their forthcoming Dublin summit.

The deputy leader of the African National Congress, accepting to warm applause the parliament's Sakharov Prize awarded him in jail in 1988, said lifting sanctions now would be step backwards, slowing the momentum of negotiations and taking pressure off South African whites to accept change.

He said at a press conference that even a partial removal of sanctions would be a catastrophe and would be seen by the people of South Africa as "stab in the back".

He had found full sympathy for his struggle from all the leaders he had so far met on his European tour — though he will not meet Mrs Thatcher in London until next month, after the Dublin summit.

Sanctions will be discussed by EC foreign ministers in Luxembourg on Monday, and at the summit. Despite British and Portuguese pressure for a partial relaxation soon, Mr Mandela was confident that community leaders would maintain them.

He also appealed to the parliament and the community to give direct financial aid to the ANC while also increasing funds given since 1986 to the victims of apartheid. Huge sums were needed to re-establish the ANC as a legal organisation, able to negotiate. There was otherwise little chance of success for the peace process. Money was also vital to help the tens of thousands of South African exiles return.

Mr Mandela hinted he was under strong pressure to take a

more militant line. He said the ANC had a right to respond with violence to violent racial oppression. It could not disarm as long as black and white racial groups roamed the country killing people.

He was generous in his praise of President de Klerk and his colleagues in the National party, whom he called men and women of integrity.

"We believe that they speak honestly when they seek an end to the apartheid system. We are of the view that they are ready to honour all agreements they enter into. We are therefore prepared to work with them to arrive at a just and lasting negotiated solution."

He said that the ANC was even talking to right-wing white groups to persuade them to soften their opposition to Mr de Klerk.

Mr Mandela, preaching a gospel of reconciliation to the Strasbourg assembly, said: "As we watched the staring eyes of the oppressors and the torturers, year in and year out, and felt the pain of their cruelty, year in and year out, we understood that we could not end the nightmare by

surrendering ourselves to the passion of hatred and the spirit of vengeance and retribution. We understood that to succumb to these elemental instincts, we would turn ourselves into a new cabal of oppressors."

• **Venice deal:** A French-inspired package deal, which would confirm Strasbourg as the permanent venue for the European Parliament's plenary sessions and break the deadlock on the sites of new European agencies, is being canvassed as a way of defusing the growing divisions between the big and small members of the community.

Commission sources said the deal involves Luxembourg dropping its claim to host the parliament and being promoted in return that Euroted, the new central bank to administer economic and monetary union, would be set up in the grand duchy.

All 2,000 officials of the parliament's secretariat would leave Luxembourg and move to Brussels, the working headquarters of the parliament when it is not in plenary session.

"The world has learned today that the people of Arkansas are ready to change their image and reshape her future," said Mr Harris only the second black ever nominated for one of the state's top offices. "We have finally rejected the old tactics of the Ku Klux Klan and the neo-Nazis and white supremacists' efforts to deceive the public."

In South Carolina Mr Mitchell, a state legislator for 16 years, defeated his white opponent, state senator Ernest Passalaqua, with about 60 per cent of the vote.

'Jogger trial' stirs race hatred

From CHARLES BREMNER
IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK embarks on another of its emotional super-trials today when the case of the Central Park jogger reaches court, 14 months since the rape of the white woman banker inflamed the black-white antagonism which has come to plague daily life in America's biggest city.

On Tuesday, Theo Mitchell became the first black ever to secure a key party's nomination for a statewide office in South Carolina, handsomely winning the Democratic nomination for governor.

In Arkansas a black trounced a Ku Klux Klan supporter in another significant victory.

Last week in North Carolina Harvey Gant became the first black Democrat to be nominated for the senate in any state. In November Douglas Wilder of Virginia, a grandson of slaves, became the first elected black governor in the United States and — outside the South — David Dinkins the first black mayor of New York.

The five men broadly represent a breed of black politicians which has long been overshadowed by Mr Jackson's fiery left-wing style but whose relative moderation is now seen as a far more likely route to electoral success.

Unlike Mr Jackson, they have, with one exception, served time in lesser public offices. They have generally played down racial issues and espoused mainstream policies to win the essential support of whites in statewide races.

Such allegations have ensured that the case will be played out in the circus-like atmosphere which surrounded the half-dozen racial violence trials of the past three years, from the "subway gunman" in 1987 to the Bensonhurst killing. That trial ended last month with the conviction of a white youth for the murder of a black in Brooklyn last summer. He received a 32-year sentence this week, and a second white was jailed for five years for riot.

Lawyers for both sides today begin testing the racial views of some 500 candidates for the jury.

Within two weeks Yusef Salam, Raymond Santana and Antron McCray will take their seats at the defence table while their counsel argue that the police coerced them into confessing to the crime and describing the actions of their alleged accomplices. About 50 witnesses are to be called, and the trial is expected to last two months.

The alleged confessions, videotaped in the case of two of the three defendants, are the core of the prosecution case. In them the youths, with their parents at their side, are asked repeatedly whether their admissions are voluntary.

They say that that is the case and provide lurid detail of the attack, which was the third in a gang of about 30 youths had carried out on whites in the park on the night of April 19.

The defence lawyers say they will prove that the police terrorised the youths into making false confessions.

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A RUSSIAN COMMONWEALTH

The Soviet Union is a state designed to arouse loyalty not to a constitution but to a party and an ideology. Now that the Communist party's monopoly of power seems to be ending, and with it the hold of Marxist-Leninist ideology over the population, debate within the Soviet Union is not surprisingly centred on the constitution. So poor is the Soviet constitutional tradition that to make sense of the break-up of their empire, Russians must look abroad.

Among the obvious multinational parallels are the United States, the European Community and the British Commonwealth. These represent three stages of decentralisation: federal, confederal and honorific. Of them, only the USA has a constitution, as opposed to international treaties between sovereign states. But while the EC may be evolving into a loose confederation, with a strong supranational authority, the British Commonwealth was never intended to exercise power in its own right. As an institution it seeks to embody a common history and perhaps a common world view, but its active functions are minimal.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as Lenin created and Stalin perfected it, was a secularised, centralised despotism in federal guise. Lacking any tradition of self-limiting central government, Soviet leaders in practice treated the local party bosses of the republics roughly as Napoleon did his prefects or Hitler his gauleiters. Though Stalin cynically promulgated a constitution which proclaimed the inalienable rights of the individual, he was careful to leave vague such questions as the mechanism by which a republic could exercise its right to secede from the Union.

Even Mikhail Gorbachev has barely specified how secession would occur under his new constitution. Denizens of the Kremlin subculture are still loath to acknowledge that subjects might exercise rights which the Soviet state has not granted.

Mr Gorbachev — in this respect very like his communist or tsarist forebears — often dispenses privileges to supplicants. But only under duress does he accept their right to

invoke both natural and Soviet law against his authority. Devolution of powers to the republics on the federal model might yet leave the Soviet government in charge of the economy. Unfortunately for Mr Gorbachev, this now looks unlikely to happen. The Soviet economy (still on a war footing, devoting over a third of GDP to the military), the central European empire, the Communist party and the Soviet tier of government have all simultaneously collapsed.

Federalism is no longer attractive to the peripheral republics. Boris Yeltsin has reminded the 100 million non-Russians that any new Soviet federation would, almost certainly, be run mainly for the benefit of Russians. The Russian Supreme Soviet's assumption of sovereign powers as a lawgiver has little in common with Baltic independence.

Does the Soviet Union still have a viable confederal option? Or will it be propelled rapidly beyond that, towards an honorific post-imperial solution? Though a final settlement is too early to predict, few now doubt that the Baltic states, the Transcaucasian republics, Ukraine and perhaps the central Asian Islamic republics all want something even looser than a confederation, if by that is meant a substantial pooling of sovereignty. The only change at Soviet level which might conceivably cause them to revise that judgment would be the abdication of the Communist party.

Were that to happen, not only the Soviet president but also his Russian counterpart, Mr Yeltsin, would find themselves challenged by anti-communists. Mr Gorbachev himself might continue as head of state, perhaps for transitional period, just as President Jaruzelski has survived in Poland. But Mr Jaruzelski is already becoming a living relic, preserved to ward off demons from the east. No comparable function would exist in a post-communist Soviet confederation. As an enlightened despot, Mr Gorbachev has had his uses. As a constitutional monarch presiding over a Russian commonwealth, Mr Gorbachev would be an anachronism.

NOT YET, MINISTER

The integrity of British public administration is envied by most of the world, but high standards do not sustain themselves automatically. Rules can help, and are sometimes necessary. In the House of Commons on Tuesday, the prime minister cleverly met Opposition demands for rules to govern the business aspirations of former cabinet ministers by quoting Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, who as prime minister had said: "These matters are better left to the discretion and good sense of the individual concerned."

In most other circumstances Mrs Thatcher would be the first to reject the doctrine of Wilsonian infallibility. She should have been more critical of it on this occasion. There is nothing in the British constitution which can guarantee that all existing and former cabinet ministers always have such virtues ex officio; and there is such a thing as taking public confidence too much for granted.

Lord Young of Graffham, once Mrs Thatcher's trade and industry secretary, has just accepted an appointment as chairman of Cable and Wireless, which the government privatised in 1981. A consequence of the Thatcher-Wilson approach is that any former cabinet minister who takes a prominent place in industry or business can expect the way he has exercised his "discretion and good sense" to be challenged publicly, even abusively, as Lord Young is now finding.

Such controversy does not enhance confidence in government and may embarrass the individual concerned, even when, as in this case, there is no hint of impropriety. Lord Young, and any other former minister in the same position, would be better served by a clear set of rules. Obedience to the rules would be an answer to any criticism.

The obvious comparison is with senior civil servants, who have to follow a set procedure when they leave public office and take on positions in the private sector. A committee of former ministers and other prominent persons under the chairmanship of Lord Carlisle of Bucklow exists to vet such cases. It reports to

the prime minister, who may then, in accordance with the advice received, block the proposed appointment or impose conditions for up to two years. The range of public servants to which the procedure applies has recently been extended, but still does not cover ministers. This is illogical. Ministers deal with the private sector in ways no less sensitive than do civil servants, and take decisions, for instance on the conduct of privatisation or procurement, which are even more sensitive. The public trusts civil servants no less than it trusts politicians. Why treat them differently?

The prime minister's other argument, that the movement of talent between industry and government is good for both, is double-edged. The exchange of wisdom and experience may indeed serve the country well. It may be good for ministers to know they have a market value outside politics, and reasonable for them to reap the reward of an experience in politics which, in Britain, is not well paid. But this does not make the notorious revolving door a good thing for the public interest. Some ministers (particularly those who sense that they are on the way out) may resist the inducement to offer patronage now for reward later; others may not, or may not escape suspicion. Corruption is a beast that feeds on innuendo as much as fact.

Resigning or sacked ministers should not be left as the only judges of their own propriety. They should be allowed and encouraged to apply for clearance to Lord Carlisle's committee, perhaps constituted on a different basis, and with the period of exclusion limited to one year rather than the two for civil servants (who can take immediate benefit of a pension on retirement). The exclusion should be only from jobs in industries with which, in the committee's view, the departing minister has been directly concerned.

The voluntary principle that applies to an MP's disclosure of interest has largely eliminated one unsavoury aspect of political life. A year in purdah for those who propose and dispose vast commercial advantage would be another.

CITY LIMITS

A week that has seen Scotland beaten by Costa Rica in the World Cup and England tamed by Ireland saw this island nation further humiliated yesterday. In a European league table of "urban prosperity", Britain once more looked off form. At number 19, Brighton was the only highest placed home town. There were only three more, Norwich (23), London (35) and Edinburgh (39) in the first 50 of 117 cities of above a third of a million people. The burghs of Frankfurt walked off with the title, followed by Brussels, Venice and Munich.

Of the bottom 50 cities, 15 were British. Liverpool and Sunderland were fourth and fifth from last respectively. With the application of a handicap for "adverse circumstances" — that is where a city has done well despite its economically peripheral status — Glasgow (Europe's city of culture this year) went to sixth place and Derby seventh. But London slumped to the depths, third from bottom.

Professor Paul Cheshire of Reading University, the economist who carried out the survey, has been researching the subject for five years. His variables — the secret of such ostensibly famous studies as the secret of vitality — are unemployment, the rate of migration and an index of travel demand as a sign of vitality.

Professor Cheshire will be as aware as the next academic of the risk inherent in such statistics. Unemployment figures, in Britain at least, are now a function not of work availability but the social security payments system. This gives central London as high an unemployment rate as parts of Tyne and Wear.

Rates of migration are a function of property prices, which means of land availability and the planning process. Travel to work is a function of a vast range of variables, including fares

subsidies, roadbuilding and historical dispersal patterns. Modes of suburban living vary widely throughout Europe. No survey, for instance, has ever been able to quantify the "prosperity" that the English vest in being house-and-garden owners rather than flat-renters. Venice, the survey admitted, was too high in the table because tourism boosts the transport statistics. This must be put it mildly.

What purpose these meticulous rankings serve is hard to identify. The figures tell us nothing about household income, rate of growth, inward investment or quality of life. Any table that puts Florence at one end and Barcelona at the other is odd, as is one that puts Rome one place above Nottingham. Among Europe's cities, the prosperity inherent in London's stock of housing and in London's capacity to generate invisible earnings from financial services and tourism should put it off the top of the map. Or perhaps the "Cities of London and Westminster" should have been declared cities on their own?

Urban prosperity is but a means to an end. Cities have long attracted people by their excitement, their social mobility, their culture and their physical charm. Why not just tear up the variables and put Venice top? Such qualities are as unquantifiable as is the benefit people derive from them.

Professor Cheshire, like most economists, has of course an ulterior motive: he wishes to see regional government and strong intervention established in his "disadvantaged" cities. That is his business. Those he defines into penury will know to disregard him, especially where they inhabit such vibrant "depressed" places as Glasgow or Seville.

THE TIMES THURSDAY JUNE 14 1990

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Extremism in aid of animal rights

From the President of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons

Sir, Like every other normal person, I was shocked by the report (June 11) that a baby has been seriously injured in an explosion thought to have been caused by animal rights extremists. This was the latest in a number of such attacks on those veterinary surgeons whose main concern is the health and welfare of experimental animals.

On admission to membership of this college a veterinary surgeon makes a solemn declaration that includes the following words: "my constant endeavour will be to ensure the welfare of animals committed to my care".

Veterinary surgeons are responsible to society for the health and welfare of all animals. When animals are used for scientific and experimental purposes, the protective role of the veterinary surgeon is detailed in the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986.

It is ironic that the very people who are most actively involved professionally in the protection of animals should be the targets for murderous attacks.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY CARTER, President,
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons,
32 Belgrave Square, SW1.
June 11.

From the Director of Friends of the Earth

Sir, Your leader today (June 12) identified a "green umbrella" which seemed to link Friends of the Earth (FoE) with anti-democratic "hot-heads" and "animal rights" extremists. You also issued dire warnings about "green fascism".

Indeed, your association that the Green Party has an "authoritarian" tendency is a travesty that betrays a lamentable ignorance of our organisation and its policies.

The Green Party is unique among British political parties in its commitment to radical decentralisation of power and responsibility. Greens have understood from the very beginning that there can be no authoritarian solution to the environmental crisis. People cannot be forced to respect the planet.

Yours faithfully,
SARA PARKIN (Speaker),
The Green Party,
10 Station Parade,
Balham High Road, SW12.
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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 13: Mr Derek Andrews (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) was received by The Queen.

Mr Allan Ramsay was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Kharoum.

Mrs Ramsay was also received by Her Majesty.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a reception in the Royal Albert Hall to mark the 50th Anniversary of General de Gaulle's call to the Free French and the 45th Anniversary of the founding of the Association des Francs Libres.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by His Excellency the French Ambassador (Vicomte Luc de La Barre de Nanteuil) and General Jean Simon (President of the Association des Francs Libres).

The Lady Parlham, The Right Hon Sir William Bessemer and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the City and Guilds of London Institute, presented the 1990 Prince Philip Medal to Mr Stanley T Balzer at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons), attended a Regimental Lunch at the Naval and Military Club, London W1.

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

The Duchess of York, Patron Macintyre, visited Macintyre, Nottingham Lane, London.

Mrs John Floyd and Captain Alexander Ballie-Hamilton were in attendance.

The Prince Edward today opened the 1990 Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, the Antiques Dealers' Fair, at Grosvenor House Hotel, London.

Lieutenant Colonel Sean O'Dwyer was in attendance.

The Prince Royal, President of the Children Fund, this morning opened the Save the Children Scottish National Sixth Forum Conference on the Rights of the Child at the University of Stirling and was

received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Stirling and Fife (Lieutenant-Colonel James Stirling of Garden).

In the afternoon Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, visited the "Northumbrian Festival" at Alnwick Castle and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Northumberland (The Viscount Ridley).

The Princess Royal this evening attended an evening race meeting at Kempton Park in aid of the Home Farm Trust Development Trust.

Mrs Timothy Holderness-Roddam was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE
June 13: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this evening at a Reception given by the Association des Francs Libres at the Royal Albert Hall.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 13: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, received Lieutenant Colonel Michael Davison upon relinquishing command of the 10th (Volunteer) Battalion, and Lieutenant Colonel Philip Neame, on assuming the appointment.

The Prince of Wales received Mr Stephen Flouden and Mr John Roberts.

The Prince of Wales gave a reception in aid of the Brogden Appeal.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, Brooksbright, attended the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, Evening Preview, Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, W1.

Viscountess Campden, Lieutenant-Commander Patrick Jephcott and Mr Richard Attar were in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK
June 13: Princess Alexandra, Patron of People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, this afternoon opened the new Head Office of the PDSA at Priorless, Teddington.

Afterwards Her Royal Highness, Patron of CARE for Mentally Handicapped People, was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Shropshire (Mr John Dugdale).

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will take the Salute at Beating Retreat by the Massed Pipes and Drums and Bands of the Scottish Division on Horse Guards at 6.30. Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, the Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment), Princess Margaret, as Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment), and Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief of The King's Own Scottish Borderers, will also attend.

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the new building of the Royal Greenwich Observatory in Cambridge at 9.10.

The Prince of Wales, as President of the Prince's Youth Business Trust, will hold a reception at Bridgewater House, 14 Cleveland Row, SW1, at 6.15 for those involved with the trust's appeal; and, as Patron of Friends of Conservation, will attend a fundraising dinner at Claridge's hotel at 7.45.

The Princess of Wales will visit Swizzel Matlow sweet factory, New Mills, Derbyshire, at 11.25; will attend the Festival of Rose Queens, Whaley Bridge Marina at 12.15; open the headquarters of the Buxton Mountain Rescue Team, Matlock, Dove Holes, at 1.20; visit Gamesley, Glossop, at 2.15; and will attend the Festival of Talents at Chatsworth Parish Church at 2.35.

The Duchess of York, as Patron

of Action Research for the Crippled Child, will visit the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Bristol at 10.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will open the fund's UK Department promotional event at the James Moir Hall, Granville Street, Glasgow, at 10.00; and will attend the Anti-Disease Research Association's annual meeting at Morley Research Institute, 408, Clemont Road, Edinburgh, at 1.30.

The Duke of Kent, as a Fellow of the Royal Society, will attend a formal admission at Carlton House Terrace at 4.25.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of Rips College, Cuddesden, Oxford, will attend the formal opening and blessing of the new building by the Archbishop of Canterbury at 11.55.

Princess Alexandra will attend a reception at St James's Palace at 6.50 to mark the 40th anniversary of the Mental Health Foundation.

Prince Michael of Kent, as Patron of the Hyde Park Appeal, will attend a luncheon at Hyde Park Barracks at 12.30 in aid of the appeal.

Princess Michael of Kent will attend the Variety Club of Great Britain's 40th anniversary luncheon at the Savoy Hotel at 12.40; and as Patron of Special Equipment and Aids for Living (SEQUAL) will attend a reception at Trinity House at 6.30.

Princess Michael of Kent will visit the Royal College of Surgeons, London, same day.

Princess Michael of Kent will visit the Royal College of Physicians, London, same day.

Princess Michael of Kent will visit the Royal College of General Practitioners, London, same day.

Princess Michael of Kent will visit the Royal College of Radiologists, London, same day.

Princess Michael of Kent will visit the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, same day.

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FICTION

Bookkeeping of sex in the red

Victoria
Glendinning on
the ultimate
male menopausal
bimbo fantasy

A TIME TO DANCE
By Melvyn Bragg
Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95

This is a novel about sex. No, it isn't. It's about sex and love; it's the two together, the letter-writing narrator says, that make life worth living. He is a retired bank manager, aged 54, who lives with his invalid wife in a detached house in a small Cumbrian town. He wears corduroy trousers and a green anorak bought in a sale. His hobbies are fell-walking, Lakeland literature, and local history.

This mild and respectable gent falls uncontrollably in love with an 18-year-old girl, a member of a lawless, rowdy local family. The novel consists of his long letter to her, going over their incongruous affair, charting its beginning, its crises of mistrust and crazed jealousy, and — this is the point — the sexual ecstasy that they have shared. Being a retired bank manager, he sets out what happened in terms of debits and credits, gains and losses — an audited balance sheet of passion. Love for him is an unlimited account, endless credit, an interest-free loan for life. But it isn't quite like that. Implicit love has destructiveness built in, and the outside world takes its revenge.

He writes down exactly what they do together — lying on a green anorak in the sexy hollows of the hills or in his two-year-old Volvo — and how she looks, and what she says, while they are doing it. He records his pride and pleasure at discovering he is so brilliant at lovemaking. It may be a weakness in the novel that the third side of the triangle, his wife, comes into focus only two thirds of the way through, though this may be a deliberate reflection of the way obsession wipes out everyday life. It is definitely a weakness that the generous letter she writes to her husband, and a self-explanatory letter from the girl to her lover, seem written in the same voice and idiom as the bank manager's. There is only one fully realised person here, and it is he, though the girl reveals in detail a traumatised childhood — which made her particularly susceptible to a decent and kindly older man.

It's hard, as the bank manager

Without this explanation, her ardour might seem unlikely.

But what does Melvyn Bragg think he's doing? On the face of it, this is the classic male-meno-pausal wish-fulfilment novel (greying, older man transformed by sensational sex with adoring bimbo), and as such a recipe for embarrassing disaster. No one can know that better than the author, so it is a brave undertaking. It is also more ambitious than a synopsis can suggest — and not a disaster. Around the descriptions of sex is woven a literary discussion about whether sex can be described at all.

It's hard, as the bank manager

says, because of the words, especially one particular word — the D. H. Lawrence word, the real word, the word the paperback novelist throws around like novices, "as the girl puts it. (She may be from a problem family, but she won the local Rotary Club essay prize). Melvyn Bragg, explaining in this newspaper how he came to write the book, has said that he himself — only a little younger than the bank manager — grew up at a time when references to sex in books were "dirty bits", and the whole subject a source of anxiety. The bank manager wonders whether sex should be suggested only in vague metaphors, the way

that his Lake Poets did it. It has not escaped the bank manager that explicit sex on the page elicits sniffs and snickers, and that many writers duck the issue to avoid the ultimate horror of being laughed at. He has read that it is impossible to write about sex without being pornographic or ridiculous. But this can't be pornography, he insists, since it is what really happened to him. (There's a knot in the string here. The love-letter isn't pornography from the bank manager's point of view; but since a novel is a work of imagination in different ways for both author and reader, it could be pornography, from his or our

point of view.) Furthermore, besides the bank manager, if people find it ridiculous, they are camouflaging either their own feelings, or their lack of them. That argument spares critical guns neatly. But a doubt remains. Secrecy was part of the thrilliness of the love affair. Secret love is best when it is secret, it "evaporates on the tongue". So the discussion, like the love affair, remains unresolved. But Melvyn Bragg has proved he can write about sexual love, not as dirty bits, but as world-shattering pleasurable. His novel is not world-shattering, but it's pleasurable.

■

Bugs in the dirty laundry

THRILLERS
Chris Petit

ONCE AND FUTURE
SPY
By Robert Littell
Faber, £12.99

back the car" — a felicitous expression meaning to take apart an operation, trace the leak, and plug it — is a grubby and hawkish Admiral Itothacher, retired, and his dangerous ADC, whose talent for base violence — "What I do well" — is partly redeemed by a computer-like brain for figures; together they make a formidable team, and soon the bugger finds himself "bugged".

But Sibley starts to suspect that Stuffmigle might be the biggest dirty tricks operation of them all, planned to end with an even bigger bang. As far as he can tell,

his own side appear to have adopted the tactics of the enemy — have become the enemy. But perhaps Sibley is unreliable, paranoid being an occupational hazard of the intelligence game. As the

MACHINE judgment is all very well, but it takes the fine-tuned acumen of the human mind to make a complete botch of things. Like Arthur C. Clarke and Greg Bear, the author pits his mortals against an immense left-over construction, made by superbeings: they try to understand its mystery, and just about emerge from a hedge of dangerous complexity with hide intact, but dignity and hair very mussed. What makes Mr Sheffield so much more interesting a read, certainly than later Clarke, is his brilliantly balanced seesaw between enormous concept and life-size characterisation.

The galaxy's former super-race were The Builders, between whose two-planet system annually floods a tidal wave; its purpose has yet to be explained. Trouble-shooter Hans Rekka is sent to discover why future leader Max Perry opted out of authority's rat-maze for a peripheral connection with this event. A woman, Professor Darya Lang, is concerned with the more abstract enigma of what happens when summer tide swells. The interaction between this trio, some strange twins, and a couple of aliens provides the emotional swell for the rush of ideas, which

New time
and
old tides

SCIENCE FICTION
Tom Hutchinson

SUMMERTIDE
By Charles Sheffield
Gollancz, £13.95

like the wave, sweeps us along. The resort to encyclopedic interruptions to let us in on future physics is dreadfully dated, and unnecessary: the main narrative is all. The vaults of space echo to another epic voice that needs little back-up of that sort.

● **Good Omens**, by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman (Gollancz, £12.99). A collaboration devoutly to be wished, if this is anything to go by, even if it has brought Pratchett down to earth

from our beloved Discworld: a Wodehousean chortle of spoof that says a final amen to *The Omen*, with a changeling Antichrist scuffing towards Armageddon as Just William, with hellhound at his heels and a delightful Laurel-and-Hardy angel and devil in tow. The footnotes are magnificently throw-away, like disposable razor-blades: the M25 is a sinister plague visited upon mankind. Not quite as sinister as the authors' photo.

● **Star Scroll**, by Melanie Rawn (Pan, £13.95). Why do dragons bring out the gush in writers? Admirers of Anne McCaffrey will know what to expect, with this second volume of a trilogy, in which High Prince Rohan is searching for an ancient — aren't they all? — scroll, the wisdom of which will help defeat an evil that could scorch dragonland.

● **The Days of Perky Pat**, by Philip K. Dick (Gollancz £14.95). Some of the best short stories written in contemporary SF. A greedy farmer's wife time-warp to profit from post-devastation survivors; space-expedition members find they've become less than human, but their humanity more so. A terrific tug of narrative, tamed with a surreal tension.

Deadly English understatement

PAPERBACKS
Nicola Beauman

HESTER LILLY
By Elizabeth Taylor
Virago, £4.99

ELIZABETH Taylor tends to be undervalued because of her subject matter. Hers is a world that those who grew up in the 1950s remember without nostalgia: print dresses made up from a Barkers remnant worn with short white socks and Clarks sandals. *Saturday Night Theatre* on the Home Service, duty to others, repressed emotion, respectability.

Nasty food is a *leitmotiv* in Elizabeth Taylor novels. In my favourite story in the *Hester Lilly* collection, "Nods & Becks & Wretched Smiles", four women meet in a cafe for elevenses. They begin by discussing childbirth and one, disloyally, says that she thought *neuragia* was worse. "At first they were too surprised to speak. After all, men could have

neuragia." Then Dolly Fisher arrives with a bandage over one eye, claiming to have conjunctivitis. "I've been run down." You don't get it from being run down. You pick it up. Mrs Miller spread margarine over half a scone and popped it into her mouth.

The subject of the stories in *Hester Lilly*, is women ensnared in domesticity. They choose husbands, they garden, they find their husbands unsatisfactory, they fall unsuitably in love, they keep up appearances. It is a milieu which, because it is restricted, has made some condemn Mrs Taylor as restricted. In one respect she courted the kind of understated, undramatic attention that she has received. She very much disliked publicity.

She has that very English quality of being both realistic and romantic. She is a acutely perceptive and very funny, yet it is in her use of language that she excels. Mrs Miller in the cafe begs to try on a ring "if my poor old hands aren't too fat". The ring was, after all, rather loose on her. It is art of the highest quality: renewed affirmation of Mrs Taylor's uniqueness.

Life under stress of fears and hate

Anne Barnes

THE BEAUTIFUL MRS SEIDENMAN

By Andrzej Szczypiorski
Translated by Kiera Głowczyńska
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £13

WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR

By Michael Esterick
Duckworth, £11.95

THE WOMAN IN HIS LIFE

By Barbara Taylor Bradford
Grafton, £13.95

THE LAST SALMON

By Jeremy Lucas
Cape, £12.95

"IT WAS no longer war that was dreadful, but peace." Andrzej Szczypiorski, a native of Warsaw, sees the Polish people as the victims of both. Having been imprisoned both by the Germans in 1944 and by the communist regime in 1981, he understands the ways in which people's lives and personalities are distorted by one form of oppression, which is then superseded by another. The Beautiful Mrs Seidenman provides a central reference point for his reflections. She is a Jewish widow but, being blonde and blue-eyed, she is able to risk living outside the ghetto under an assumed name with false identification papers. Suddenly one day she is spotted by a Gestapo informer and arrested.

As a character she is of slight importance, but this single incident places her at the centre of the novel, bringing into play the network of friends and their contacts who combine to rescue her. It also shows up the clamour and uncertainty that runs through the power of her tormentors. The man who secures her release is actually a German who wears a swastika, but he has settled in Poland and has Polish friends. He wonders when they will turn against him because he is a German, just as other characters who circle around the action wonder whether they hate the Jews more than the Muscovites or vice versa.

In the middle of this fear and hatred is a 19-year-old boy, who perhaps reflects something of the author's own youth, struggling to protect the Jewish friends he loves, but for whom he can do little. As he says goodbye to a particular friend who is returning to the ghetto and certain death, he feels his childhood and the part of his own personality that belonged to that childhood fall away. "On that very day," he says, "I understood that the time of partings, goodbyes, and eternal fears was beginning."

There are echoes of these eternal fears in Michael Esterick's novel, too. This time the hero, who is also the narrator, is a young artist living safely in London in the 1980s, asking himself "What Are Friends For". Although his parents retain a strong sense of the horrors of the holocaust, he is lighthearted, almost dismissive, about his Jewishness. There is no reason why it should affect his friendships or his lifestyle. He sees himself as a true Brit when the Task Force leaves for the Falklands, following with enthusiasm the pathetic flag-waving in the South Atlantic. Only when the news bulletins switch from this to the atrocities in the Lebanon does he begin to see the conflict between his family's allegiance to Israel, as a country strong enough to assert their culture forcefully, and his own breezy acceptance of peace and freedom in London. The real meaning of the war in Lebanon becomes suddenly clear. The story itself is sight, but the telling is stylish. Esterick has a strong sense of the ridiculous, and with it describes the contradictory poses adopted by young men who feel they should be going places but can't quite find the way. He is also adept at showing both the menace and absurdity of thinly disguised prejudice, whether they be about race or class.

Barbara Taylor Bradford em-

ployes less subtlety. Her story is about the glamorous rich — getting ever richer — Maxim, whose Jewish parents smuggled him and his nanny out of Berlin in the Thirties before they themselves were caught and murdered by the Nazis. It is no wonder that he suffers a continuous identity crisis, which leaves him unsatisfactorily stranded between *The Woman in His Life*. It is a familiar formula, written in that sort of tele-speak style which makes one want to turn the pages in a frenzy. But there are a few good moments. The descriptions of Berlin before and after the war and then (up-to-date — no problem) in 1989 when the wall is being knocked down, are clear and affecting. There is also a full array of period snippets. The Russian aristocracy fit in and out; Churchill is greatly admired and his more stirring speeches quoted at length; the idea of John Kennedy is there, both when he is being a Berliner, and later when the news of his death hits the world. Even Sam Spiegel puts in an occasional appearance at a party. The characters of the story may be banal, but the author has worked hard on her background details, producing a pattern far richer than the actual plot.

In *The Last Salmon* Jeremy Lucas writes about a struggle against a different sort of holocaust. The natural world is being destroyed. His novel has two distinct strands. One is a description of a salmon's journey through the seas and rivers, meeting terrible dangers while pursuing its destiny. The other is the life of a young boy brought up in the Weald of Kent. He is suddenly uprooted from this unspoilt bit of country to go and live among the carefully placed trees and lamp posts of Muswell Hill — an existence only made bearable by annual holidays among the lonely lochs of Scotland. The two parts of the narrative echo each other, since both salmon and boy are struggling towards freedom in an environment which is being steadily and callously reduced to suit man's greed. Sometimes this ambitious structure proves a bit hard to handle, and both salmon and hero begin to lose their momentum towards the end, but the early descriptions of a child learning to handle a fishing rod or wandering along a stream alive with mysterious activity, catch the intensity of childhood longing in a way that is strangely moving. I had never expected ever to find tears pricking my eyes over a book that is largely connected with fish.

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POETRY

The threat to our freedom gets verse

Allen Ginsberg, elder statesman of the Beat generation, prosecuted as often as publicly honoured for his poetry, talks to Cris Cheek

Allen Ginsberg, a leading figure among the writers of the Beat Generation, was once given an unusual, even bizarre accolade. He was crowned as the "King of May" in Prague in 1965 – a folk-honour usually bestowed on a Czech student. Giving the crown to an American poet was a signal that Ginsberg's ideas – his attempts to broaden sensibilities, to jolt his disciples into fresh ways of thinking – had penetrated even into Eastern Europe.

So, however, had his notoriety in the eyes of the authorities. His connection with the American counter-culture, influential poems such as "Howl" published ten years earlier, his association with Timothy Leary: all this may have made him the foremost spokesman for his generation. But he also aroused his suspicion.

Within a week of his May Day coronation he was accused of being a bad influence on Czech youth by the secret police and deported. During the flight to London, one of his most enduring poems "Kral Majales" (The King of May) was written. It was full of improvisational energy, exorcising both communists and capitalists alike. The aim, as always for him, was to "tell it like it is", using speech rhythms from the American street.

On April 24 this year, aged 63, he returned to Prague. "On May Day I was invited out to get my crown back. I was led to a table on the main square with Vaclav Havel, and we spent an hour and a half together talking about poetry and politics. He read through the old "King of May" poem and said he liked it because it was straightforward. I was invited to give a speech warning people against the commodity culture and saying

that we need a spiritual politics. Then I was presented to 60,000 people. A "Return of the King of May" poem was published for May Day in the newspaper.

"The mayor gave me my crown back, we read this poem aloud and then I passed the crown on to a student who had been newly elected. So I'm the longest-lasting, oldest King of May in history, because it's 25 years since they've had an election. It turned out to be a most harmonious circle."

Arriving in London this week Allen Ginsberg is greyer in beard and more eminent in appearance than the unruly figure who led the 1968 Chicago student protests. But his unpretentious, easy-going manner is intact, and his memory for long-past events is astonishing. For 16 years he has been a respected member of the American Academy and Institute of Art and Letters. The Naropa Institute, co-founded with Anne Waldman, is flourishing: it is the first accredited Buddhist college in the Western world. A new opera, *Hydrogen Jukebox*, written with the composer Philip Glass, has been premiered at the Spoleto Festival in Italy. Barry Miles's biography has now been published in Britain, and to promote the release of his best record for years, *The Lion For Real*, Ginsberg gives a Festival Hall reading tomorrow.

The Lion For Real presents 17 poems from the "Collected Poems 1947-1980" in the most challenging and satisfying musical settings of his career. It includes a saxophone-laced version of "Kral Majales" which Ginsberg describes as his "most perfect" fusion of poetry and music. He does not try to sing and thereby emphasises the cadences in the writing itself. Eight of New York's experimental composers have

contributed, and at least one more record is being planned.

"We're going to do some more extended work, something like 'Howl' or 'Plutonium Ode'. But what I'm really interested in, finally, is completing the Blake project." In 1969, when he first branched out into music, Ginsberg recorded "William Blake's Songs of Innocence and Experience" timed by Allen Ginsberg, presenting 22 of those poems. He has taught Blake's poetry "line by line" at Naropa.

While his records and books can be freely bought and disseminated in this country, Ginsberg has fears about the uses of recent legislation in the United States for censorship purposes. The Helms amendment, passed in October 1988, prohibits the television or radio broadcast of "indecent" material at any time during the broadcast day. It is already having a noticeable effect on the arts, especially when the legislation is used by religious fundamentalists.

In an attempt to defend authors against the Helms amendment, the American PEN and Pacifica Radio have prepared a list of "questionable material" under new Federal Communications Commission regulations. It includes works by Edward Albee, Joseph Heller, Tennessee Williams, Samuel Beckett, Sylvia Plath, Mark Twain, Milan Kundera, James Joyce, Alice Walker, Salman Rushdie, and Thomas Mann.

For Ginsberg, such legislation stems from "a displacement of the aggression and anxiety that accompanies de-tox from the Cold War and having, as people de-tox, to face the real problems". He has faced similar threats to his work before. "Howl" was unsuccessfully prosecuted for

obscenity in 1956, though its language would be considered mild by present-day standards.

In a recent statement published by *The Nation* magazine, he writes:

"A major characteristic of my poetry, at least for its wide

circulation, has been its quality of American speech, idiomatic and vernacular, a diction drawn from living language and clarity of vocalization... Walt Whitman called specifically for candour of poets and orators to follow him.

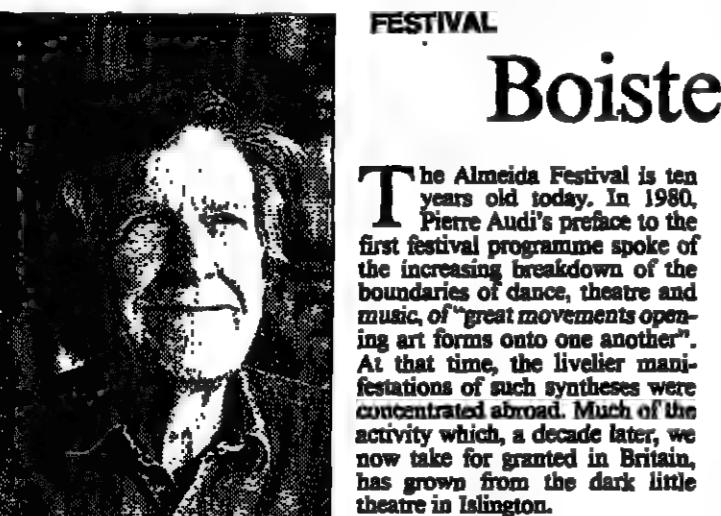
Despite the unconstitutional ban that have been put on my poetry, I repeat that call for candour."

• *Allen Ginsberg reads with Benjamin Zephaniah at the Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8300), tomorrow at 7.30pm.*

CRIS CHEEK

FESTIVAL Boisterous ten-year-old retains a spirit of adventure

Hilary Finch previews the 1990 Almeida Festival, maintaining its record for innovation



John Cage: uninhibited opera

The Almeida Festival is ten years old today. In 1980, Pierre Audi's preface to the first festival programme spoke of the increasing breakdown of the boundaries of dance, theatre and music, of "great movements opening art forms onto one another". At that time, the livelier manifestations of such syntheses were concentrated abroad. Much of the activity which, a decade later, we now take for granted in Britain, has grown from the dark little theatre in Islington.

The Almeida Festival has been a fearless discoverer and initiator. Think of 1982's New York performance season, of Birtwistle's *Down by the Greenwood Side* of 1984, of the Russian series of 1984 and last year and of the opera productions begun in 1988. Still, more important, the festival has been a power for growth, an influence for interbreeding European and American activity.

Above all it is the festival's unique sense of organic development and of continuity which this tenth anniversary celebrates. John Cage is by now an Almeida father figure. Adopted in 1982 as the focus of his own 70th birthday celebrations, during which the European première of his *Roaratorio* was performed, Cage is now honoured in a new festival commission. His *Europaras 3 and 4* comes to the Almeida for its world première, much helped by the enlightened sponsorship of Lufthansa. It moves on to the Hebel Theatre in Berlin, Musica 90 in Strasbourg, and the Bastille's amphitheatre in October.

Cage is in Islington rehearsing what promises to be an uninhibited riposte to the self-inflicted traumas of European opera. He describes the piece as "a circus without costumes, without sets, without props, but with lighting". It is something of an act of vengeance. "The Europeans have been sending Americans their operas for the past 150 years, and now I'm sending them all back!"

Long before barbed wire was cut, and walls broken down, the Almeida was issuing musical visas for the works of Eastern European and Soviet composers as a priority in festival planning. This year, the Nasch Ensemble presents a programme of New Soviet Works, including a British première by Edison Denisov. Towards the festival's end, a weekend of Voices from the East introduces new works by Estonia's Arvo Part and Poland's Mikolaj Górecki.

Górecki's *Songs of Joy and Rhythm*, written in 1956 during the first joyful era of de-

Stalinisation, is joined by his "O Domina nostra", in Paul Hillier's Theatre of Voices concert. Another last-minute scoop is the world première of a festival commission, funded by Greater London Arts: *Life without Christ* by Giya Kancheli, the Georgian composer. There are plans to invite the State Chamber Orchestra of Georgia next year.

Pianist Yvar Mikhashoff, an associate director of the festival, who organises his own festival of contemporary music in Buffalo where he is based, assaulted the Almeida with an unforgettable Tango Marathon in 1983. This year, he has gathered a bouquet of ten commissions, from composers in different countries, for an afternoon of piano solos.

Another festival thread which weaves its way into an ever-

concert sequences from two American musicals, *Johnny Johnson* and *Lost in the Stars*. Composer Xenakis, too, has his own festival within a festival: a regular visitor to the Almeida, his *Krephas*, a new work for 40 voices will be premiered in a concert of New Cries by the New London Chamber Choir and James Wood.

Marc Donley, the festival's co-ordinator, looks forward to the increasing possibility for European co-productions, including a Stockhausen project next year, and a view out to the Mediterranean for 1992. He says: "We want to find the musical traditions which link those countries by their shores, not just inland. We want composers to write works for one island of their choice. Each of us has an island somewhere . . ."

• The Almeida Festival runs from Thursday to July 14 at the Almeida Theatre, Almeida Street, Islington, London, N1 1TA (071-359 4404).

ICE DANCE

At the cutting edge of expressive skill

Michael Coleman considers the dance element of Torvill and Dean's show

Torvill and Dean attracted them by the coach-load to Earl's Court last week and the week before. The audience emerged talking about the Russians. This is not to imply that the Brits of *Bolero* were upstaged by the 19 others in the company, but to warn patrons, who will doubtless pack the G-Mex Centre in Manchester from this Thursday, that they are due for a balletic surprise.

Tacky ice shows with bunched music and ugly costumes have not helped skating to be accepted as an art, particularly in this country, although John Curry in the mid-Seventies had some sceptics wavering.

Such snobbery is not apparent abroad, as the terminology *parage artistique* and *Eis-kunst* indicates. In Russia, state train alongside the Bolshoi and Kirov.

By chance, the Kirov opened at the London Coliseum last Tuesday. Not surprisingly, Tatyana Tarasova, the artistic director of Torvill and Dean and the Russian All Stars was present, leaving affairs at Earl's Court in the care of Nadezhda Krylova, the ballet mistress, herself a soloist with the Bolshoi until 1985.

Significantly, bearing in mind the audiences expected, one innovative item, "Arc of the Bell" in which Torvill and Dean sway off balance like a pendulum to the music of an Estonian composer, Arvo Pärt, has been shelved.

Ice gives added flow to

balletic movement, which both Tarasova and her co-

director, Dean, exploit fully, employing a company already well disciplined in moving at speed, since all have previously competed. Borodin's Polovian Dances and an absorbing and well-costumed Egyptian ensemble, *Akkhaten* and *Nefertiti*, based on the Philip Glass opera, are the centre-pieces in which the jumps, lifts and linking steps match anything seen elsewhere on a dry floor. The landings were especially soft.

Apart from the still haunting *Bolero*, Torvill and Dean offer, as solos, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Snow Maiden*, their version of the *Duchess's* pan-pipes dance "Missing" and a merry chase over two bowler hats. A skate blade has an inner and an outer edge and

it is by skilful use of these that turns and smooth changes of direction are achieved. The soloists, Yuri Ovchinkov (Russian Dance) and Leonid Kazarin (Gopak) seem to glide without effort, as does the whole company in the swirling finale, in which Torvill and Dean (as Rogers and Astaire) and the Russians, the men in top hats and tails, step it out on their big 40 x 25-metre ice stage like the best of troupers. But no Smurfs, no chumps, no chorus line. For those, look elsewhere.

• *Torvill and Dean and the Russian All Stars appear at G-Mex, Manchester, June 14 to July 8; Whitley Bay, July 11 to 15; Brighton, July 27 to 31; Nottingham, August 7 to 12.*

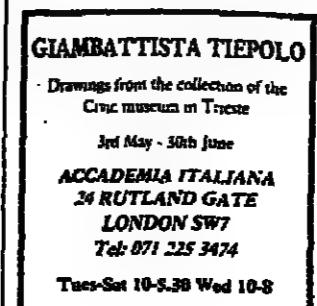


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CRITIC'S CHOICE:
VIDEO

CINEMA

A weekly selection of films recently released on video. The year refers to the date of first release, or in the case of television films, of first broadcast.

ACCIDENT (Warner, PG). Love, death, suspicion and hatred during one hot Oxford summer, coolly examined by director Joseph Losey and scriptwriter Harold Pinter. Fine performances (Dirk Bogarde, Stanley Baker). 1967.

AL CAPONE (CBS/Fox, 15). Rod Steiger in 1959, chewing the scenery to entertaining effect in Richard Wilson's absorbing, atmospheric account of the career of the Chicago gangster.

ANDY PANDY 2: TALES FROM THE TOYBOX (BBC, 12). Andy Pandy, the arch-dip of children's television, Loo and Teddy in four colour episodes from 1970. The first anthology has so far sold an awesome 100,000 copies.

CROSS OF FIRE (Braveworld, 15). Broad but powerful three-hour television movie about the collapse of the Indiana Ku Klux Klan crusade during the 1920s, with John Heard as a hypocritical Klan boss. Director, Paul Wenderos. 1989.

DANCIN' THRU THE DARK (15). Willy Russell's thin, but boisterous, comedy-musical about a bride, her fiancé, and her old flame, rubbing shoulders in a Liverpool dance hall. Fine ensemble playing; a lively debut by theatre director Mike Cokren. 1990.

E.T. — THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL (CIC, 12). Spielberg's much-maligned tale of a lonely lad befriend a lovable alien, finally released at a bargain price. Overly cute, but the film's power and magic is undeniable. 1982.

FLOWERPOT MEN 2: TALES FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE GARDEN (BBC, 12). Four further adventures of the *Watch With Mother* stars: they bathe in a hat, play around with cabbages and sprouts, meet a Stickmen and dance on bellows. Black-and-white; mid-fifties.

HEAD (RCA/Columbia, PG). Bob Rafelson's plotless vehicle for the Monkees pop group, written with Jack Nicholson. The psychedelic colours ensure a paradox acomes. Much of the anarchic business remains funny. 1968.

THE HUNCHBACK HAIRBALL OF L.A. (Vestron, 15). Irritating campus comedy, saved from perdition by a sweet performance from writer Allen Katz as a hunchback. Director, Jeremy Kagan. 1980.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH (CBS/Fox, 12). Professor James Mason heads a motley band exploring an Icelandic volcano. Extrahilarating, old-fashioned romp, inspired by Jules Verne, considerably enhanced by Bernard Herrmann's music. 1959.

PORRIDGE (BBC, PG). Three installments of the outstanding BBC comedy series of the mid-Seventies, including the first episode and the 1978 Christmas special, *The Desperate Hours*. Expert playing by Ronnie Barker and company; sharp dialogue by Clement and LeFrenais.

SCENES FROM THE CLASS STRUGGLE IN BEVERLY HILLS (MGM/JA, 18). Kinsey fun and games with Jacqueline Bisset's weekend guests. Typical fare from director-actor Paul Baxley: satirical chocolate with a son canine. 1990.

THE SICILIAN CLAN (CBS/Fox, 15). Jean Gabin and Alain Delon as ill-tempered crooks working unceasingly on a massive jewel robbery. Decent French thriller with strong suspense sequences and moody photography; director, Henri Verneuil. 1982.

TURNER AND HOOCHE (Touchstone, PG). Predictable cop-and-dog antics, given some charm by Tom Hanks, a police investigator whose itinerant life is swamped by a messy case (crucial witness to a drug killing). 1989.

VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA (CBS/Fox, 12). Enjoyable, if naive, nonsense from a master of the style, Irwin Allen, with Walter Pidgeon as the doughty admiral aboard an atomic submarine trying to explode a radiation belt. Later a television series. 1961.

YOUNG GUNS (Vestron, 18). Not a Western for genre purists, but a strong, cheeky vehicle for the Hollywood bratpack (Emilio Estevez, Charlie Sheen, Kiefer Sutherland). Old-timers include Jack Palance, huffing and puffing like a melodrama villain. 1988.

GEOFF BROWN

Pastmaster of the talking picture

David Robinson reviews Eric Rohmer's *A Tale of Springtime* plus *Music Box*, *Treasure Island* and *Phantom of the Opera*

The films of Eric Rohmer offer very particular pleasures, which have changed little in quality in the 21 years since *Claire's Knee*. Rohmer conforms no more to the modes of 1970 than he did to the styles of the Fifties and Sixties, when he started his career with the New Wave: the group of French film critics who put their prejudices into practice.

Rohmer never belonged to any recognisable film tradition. His comedies of manners have more in common with French literature. It is no accident that the names he has given to his film cycles — "contes moraux", "paraboles et Proverbes" — seem to paraphrase De Musset.

Rohmer is an intellectual, and his films are in the best, sense literary. Long ago, as a critic, he wrote: "Either the film distracts words completely, or it cherishes them wholeheartedly. Above all, of course, it gives us things to see, but if it opens upon a world of brilliant talkers, it is important that they be as talkative as possible."

Rohmer's characters talk endlessly, but what would be tiresome in another film maker is delectable in him, because the dialogue is so good, reveals so much about the speakers, and so subtly counterpoints the pictures.

A Tale of Springtime (U, Lumière and Chelsea Cinema) introduces a new Rohmer cycle, "Contes des Quatre Saisons". Jeanne (Anne Teyssedre) is a young teacher of philosophy. Natasha (Florence Darel) is a student at the Conservatoire. They become friends when Jeanne's boyfriend is away, and Natasha invites Jeanne to stay at her father's apartment in Paris and his house in the country.

Jeanne comes to suspect that Natasha is trying to pair her off with her father (Hugues Quester), in order to get rid of his young girlfriend (Elise Bennett), whom she

from respect for classical literary traditions), likes to tie his characters into well-composed narratives, with beginnings, middles and ends. Here the story of a stolen necklace (recalling *Maurice*, but also Satyajit Ray's *Pather Panchali*). Rohmer remains a cinephile, provides a narrative thread and a wonderfully neat dénouement.

The performances and the casting of Rohmer's films are always

industry earned over £300m in visible exports last year.

The French government each year invests £70m in its cinema, and West Germany more than £25m. Individual German cities such as Hamburg and Berlin each contribute annual subsidies of £7m. Britain gives £1.5m to British Screen Finance, about £500,000 to script development and another £1m or so to the British Film Institute's production fund. This produces a total of around £3m: the cost of one moderately ambitious British feature film. While France and Germany offer tax incentive schemes to encourage private investors, we abandoned the Capital Allowance Scheme five years ago.

The elders, however, know better than to confront Mrs Thatcher with a begging bowl, which would only bring a lecture about the free

market. Rather, they will dangle the opportunities offered by the European market after 1992; and warn her of the danger that Britain will miss out on them. This country could be advantageously placed in 1992. The quality of British talent, in technology, acting and production, is attested by the continuing drain to Hollywood. The pan-European film industry is going to see English-language films as the key to the world market.

In theory, then, Britain should be strenuously courted as a co-production partner. In fact, the inability of British producers to put money on the table continues to handicap British co-production. Last year, production here fell to its lowest point since the Twenties. Investment has dropped in the past five years by 75 per cent.

The deputation will counter Mrs Thatcher's feelings about

Europe and the free market with an appeal to her sense of fair play. Unless the European partners abandon their own production support schemes, Britain is not, they will tell her, playing on a level field. The first need is a single ministry responsible for films, and empowered to perform such elementary duties as keeping statistics (it is at present far easier to get figures on French or Italian cinema than our own). The elders will no doubt propose a national film promotional agency on the lines of Unifrance.

When Mrs Thatcher tells them that they must look to the private sector for investment (and she has invited a group of financiers to take part in the seminar), they will counter with a plea for the kind of tax incentives other governments provide. It could be done by amendments to the Business Expansion Scheme, which is at present fairly irrelevant to film production, with its ceiling of £750,000.

They may well propose something on the lines of the French system, which ingeniously combines tax incentives with state funding for a quasi-commercial funding system, run by private companies. They may at the same time point out that the high taxation levied on foreign artists working in this country has seriously inhibited American production in Britain, which once brought a lot of work and money.

On the European front, they will plead with Mrs Thatcher to support European initiatives, like Media 92, which has been exploring a variety of European film support schemes and which requires Britain's signature by October of Media 95. No one, however, could blame Mrs Thatcher if, like

Newton. This Long John is smooth and sly and, for all his rotting teeth and bloodthirsty ways, even charming.

The new *Phantom of the Opera* (18, Cannon Haymarket) makes a needless disclaimer that it has no association with "any current or prior stage production or motion picture of the same title". The sad script has not much to do with Gaston Leroux's original thriller, either. The single imaginative effort has been to cast Robert Englund ("Freddy", the monster of *Elm Street*) as the Phantom, with all the surgical special effects his presence inevitably entails.

The film does, however, have the single but considerable merit of being photographed by one of the world's great cinematographers, the Hungarian Elmer Raszai (the film was shot in Budapest). From time to time, in all the dross of the narrative, there are images to take the breath away. The director, who hardly deserves such a bonus, was Dwight H. Little.

others of us, she is bemused by the plethora of Euro-schemes and the initials that identify them.

It is predictable that the discussion will be confined to industrial issues. The simple plea that cinema is an art meriting subsidy for its cultural value alone fails on deaf ears in Britain. The readiness of Continental governments to subsidise their cinemas has much to do with a cultural atmosphere in their countries, in which film is viewed on the same level as theatre and painting, and film-makers such as Bergman, Kurosawa, Chaplin, Ford, Buñuel and Renoir are ranked among the greatest artists of the century.

In 1929, Sir Stephen Tallents, an Empire Marketing Board official, wrote a pamphlet, "The Projection of England" about the importance of cinema in promoting British influence and values abroad. Perhaps the elders can convince Mrs Thatcher if, like England in the new Europe.



Conversational quartet: from left, Hugues Quester, Eloise Bennett, Florence Darel and Anne Teyssedre in *A Tale of Springtime*

Not asking for charity, but commonsense investment

British film-makers meet Mrs Thatcher tomorrow. David Robinson anticipates the debate

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EXHIBITION

Ghostly giggles in the machine

Doron Swade, curator of computing at the Science Museum, looks at a Glasgow art exhibition exploiting computer science

organisers say, is intended for the young, and visitors do not have to look at the sculptures constructions or pictures to understand the appeal, just listen. The shrieks of delight as the youngest of kids clamber unseen inside a huge green structure sprouting carved jungle animals will give the clue. Watching the adults, it seems that it is the grown-ups who would benefit more from a deconditioning clamber than the young.

The tone throughout is one of engaging humour and gentle mischief. The foyer-feature gives a foretaste: Alice in Wonderland, three inches high, stands on a pedestal table next to a bottle with "drink me" on the label. Along

side is a life-size Alice, with mildly startled eyes. Look a little longer: Alice's neck starts to elongate until it projects an improbable length before, to the spectator's relief, it retracts. "Art", says Ken Baynes, who conceived the exhibition, "is to do with unexpected meanings."

Alice prepares the visitor for transformation. In Wonderland, nonsense becomes intelligible through metaphor.

Some 40 pieces were commissioned for the exhibition. Two clinker-built Cornish fishing boats are transformed into a whale-like sea-monster by David Kemp. In a "Child's Room of the Future", by Stephen French, are found holographic window blinds, a flashing inside-out hi-fi, and a carpet with twinkling pin-points of coloured light in a moving pattern: starburst magic created by optical fibres embedded in the weave.

There is a giant rusting structure, by Robert Callender. It is easy to see this as some serious-minded moral about decay, the non-viability of industrialisation, the intractable weight of spent greed — until a wall caption gives the information that this ponderous structure is quite improbable, made from paper. Rush back, touch it; so it is Alice.

The sculptures and pictures are clearly at the "art" end and are a dozen colour-graphics computers for visitors to use. Each machine runs on ten interactive programmes, which allow a visitor to explore a range of visual possibilities, including on-screen weaving, patterns for tiles, mathematical shapes, the growth of trees and the geometry of snowflakes.

By and large, microcomputers, as art tools, have promised much and delivered pitifully little. They are essentially deterministic ma-



Engaging humour: the life-size Alice doll with elongated neck

chines bound by rules, and this conflicts fundamentally with the notion of art as something transcendent. For their genre (videomaths), the programmes do well. But the medium of keyboard and screen is woefully limited, compared to the prospect of participating in the physical fun a little way along.

The exhibit that takes the prize for melting the distinction between art and machine is Ron Geesin's "Tune Tube". Geesin describes himself as a sound architect, a term that conveys well the interplay between sound and space that is the unique feature of this piece. In brief, the Tube transforms dance into sound; it is an instrument played from the inside.

Physically, the Tube is just that: a tubular structure large enough for several people to crouch in. The space is criss-crossed with ultrasound and infra-red scanners which detect the player-composers' movements in different zones.

A serious pun of the design is that many of the sounds are derived from London Underground tube noises, such as the pneumatic whoosh of doors, rail clatter, and screeching brakes. But there is nothing of the brutal cacophony of the metallic world in the Tube's musical output, the sound library is simply a musical alphabet. Speed of movement invokes rapid sounds; a stretching movement overhead invokes light, tinkling "piano-water" sounds, and the visitor soon finds the fingers fluttering in response.

The Tube does more than describe movement; as visitors explore motion, position and their musical effect, they are enacting their own sonic dances. When they leave the Tube, they trigger applause; this is a facetious dig at what Geesin maintains is the obscenity of canned response.

• The Art Machine is at the McLellan Galleries, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (041-331 1854) daily until August 26, admission £1.

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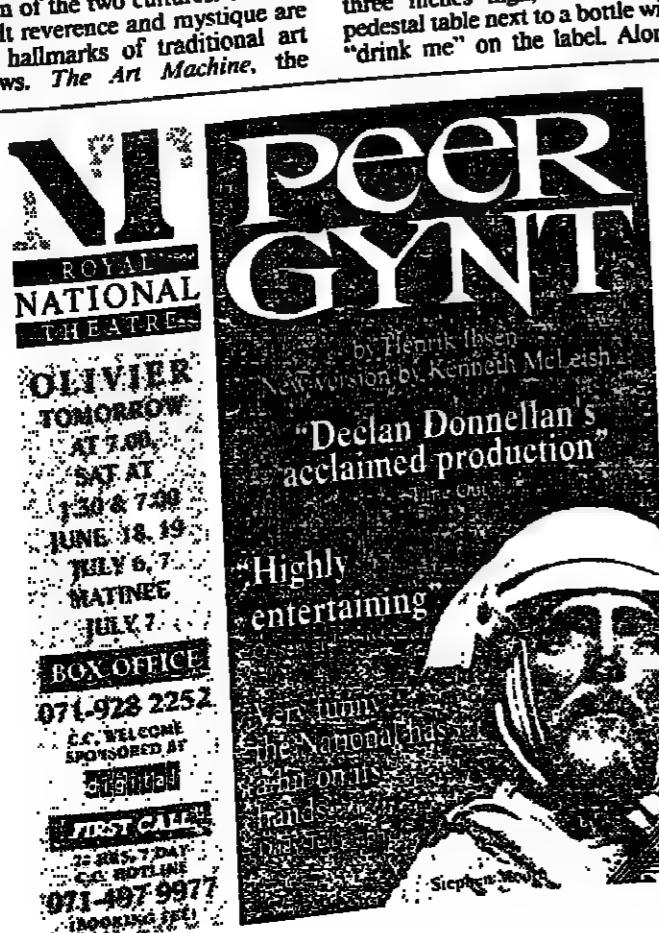
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TIME 14.45



Question time in the garden

THEATRE

Hidden Laughter

Vaudeville

A HOLLOW stump, last remnant of a rotten tree, squats in the garden where Simon Gray has set and directed his wry, sad, impressive new play. Since it defies digging up, and harbours a rat, the object is more than symbolic. It is hardly surprising that one visitor to this enchanted spot has a mad, malevolent wife, another sleeps with a succession of secretaries, a third is crippled by a rampaging bull, and so on.

Very Simon Gray, one could say. Too obviously Simon Gray, an unkind observer might add. And so it seems for a time. This is the country getaway of a literary agent (Kevin McNally) and his novelist wife (Felicity Kendal). She worries about the children, especially when they are left in London with his potty father (Richard Vernon), who seems ready to feed them cat food for dinner. He frets at the sexual bit.

It is all observed in Gray's best funny-sour way. There is an entertaining scene in which Peter Barkworth's gentle vicar, riled by a writer's contempt, furiously beats him to the ground. There is a still more painfully amusing one involving the same character. How can he reveal his presence,

and break to McNally that his son may be dying outside, when he finds him in a clinch with a passing sexpot?

Such incongruities have always appealed to Gray. Yet, just when one is regrettably finding his comedy too undemanding, the evening begins and continues to deepen. It is almost as if Chekhov has come to mellow the ironic imps and cynical demons Gray keeps in his urbane head.

The key figure is not now Kendal or McNally, nicely though they show the passing of time and illusions. It is Barkworth's shambling vicar, so C of E in his well-meaning uncertainty. The other characters patronise him, overlook his own crises, forget what these even are; yet find themselves unexpectedly confronting him with the dreads, hates, confusions and awful secrets they cannot express to those more closely involved.

The combination of their emotion, and his fluster, creates a texture unique in Gray's work. True, the play has faults. Kendal's neurotic anxiety is signalled too much. McNally's resentment of her muse too little. Their married troubles are not revealed enough. Much of the plot will no doubt be accused of being untidy, as Chekhov's plots often were.

Yet the final impression is of complicated human truths rendered with an unsentimental warmth and something even



Felicity Kendal and Kevin McNally in *Hidden Laughter*

stranger. The characters do not just misunderstand each other, suffer pain, and feel guilt; they persistently ask why. To call this Gray's first metaphysical work might be too much. But his title comes from lines in Eliot's *Four*

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

staged in England, nervously retitled *Point of Departure*, the roles were played by Mai Zetterling and Dirk Bogarde; one can imagine a passion in their playing, at once desperate and fragile, that is simply not being tapped here.

Penny Brown's double set, of restaurant and bedroom, the one curving in a horseshoe around the other, holds plenty of period detail. Also attractive is Michael Rudman's staging, quietly touching when all the characters reappear to remember the true Eurydice, now dead for the second time. The play's strength and, yes, allure, are welcome discoveries. If only the central characters had been as strong and alluring.

JEREMY KINGSTON

has been only modestly sordid, yet she is afraid to tell him of it. Running away, she dies in an accident, but now, when she is restored to him on the usual condition, Orpheus is consumed with suspicion as to her purity.

Again, he is urged by the mysterious Monsieur Henri, the angel of death in raincoat and trilby, that love cannot last throughout life. On the other side of the bed, Orpheus's father (Peter Halliday) sucks a cigar, relishing the thought of the girl who rolled it on her thighs. That is the apparently grim prospect ahead of Eurydice if he does not join his Orpheus in an early grave.

The fatalism and personification of Death fix the play in the France of its period (1941), familiar

from the plays and films of Cocteau and Carné. Surprisingly, M. Henri's merciless counsel still holds the stage, since it can be felt as the projection of Orpheus's self-pity. I could not decide whether Simon McBurney's Henri genuinely does like Orpheus, as he professes, but this uncertainty could be right for the play.

The faults of the production lie in the casting of Shirley Henderson and William Roxborow in the principal roles. She toys coquettishly with her innumerable cigarettes and fleetingly her voice carries poignancy. He manages the dazed woman well enough, but the ardour, the perishable beauty of such loving, is just not present.

Nor is Orpheus's heart-rending grief. When the play was last

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The fatalism and personification of Death fix the play in the France of its period (1941), familiar

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The faults of the production lie in the casting of Shirley Henderson and William Roxborow in the principal roles. She toys coquettishly with her innumerable cigarettes and fleetingly her voice carries poignancy. He manages the dazed woman well enough, but the ardour, the perishable beauty of such loving, is just not present.

Nor is Orpheus's heart-rending grief. When the play was last

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Penny Brown's double set, of

restaurant and bedroom, the one curving in a horseshoe around the other, holds plenty of period detail. Also attractive is Michael Rudman's staging, quietly touching when all the characters reappear to remember the true Eurydice, now dead for the second time. The play's strength and, yes, allure, are welcome discoveries. If only the central characters had been as strong and alluring.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Paul Barden and Fiona Foster 8.55 Regional news and weather
9.00 News and weather followed by *The Travel Show* Guides. A warts-and-all guide to Cyprus (1)
9.35 *Look, Stranger*. Featuring a strange commuter journey to a 15th-century Welsh home (1)
10.00 News and weather followed by *Matchpoint* (1)
10.25 Children's BBC
10.55 Five to Eleven. Poems on the rights of children are read by Mirandas Foster
11.00 News and weather followed by Hudson and Halls. The camp Kwi cooks invite Basil Brush to try their oysters with orange and walnuts (1)
11.30 *Tricks of the Trade*. Handy hints and tips on all manner of subjects (1)
12.00 News and weather followed by *Dallas* (Ceefax)
12.50 *The Travel Show* UK Mini Guides. Rose-on-Wye (1) 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. Weather 1.30 *Neighbours*. (Ceefax)
1.50 *Matchpoint*. The last semi-final of the tennis-style cooking quiz
2.15 Film: *Jealousy* (1984). Agnes Dickinson, Paul Michael Glaser and David Carradine star in three short stories about jealousy. A made-for-television attempt to feature the talents of Dickinson, who looks as good

as ever but fails to get much variation from three supposedly different roles. Directed by Bruce

3.50 *Rupert* 3.55 *Mersey Tales* (r) 4.00 Laurel and Hardy (1) 4.05 *Happy Families* (r) 4.20 *New Adventures of Mighty Mouse* (r) 4.35 *Defenders of the Earth*
4.45 *Newround* 5.05 *Blue Peter*. (Ceefax)
5.35 *Neighbours* (1). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: *Sportswide* 5.40 *Inside Ulster*
6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather
6.30 *Regional News Magazines*. Northern Ireland: *Neighbours*
7.00 *Top of the Pops*
7.30 *Eastenders*. (Ceefax)



Innovations: the Prince of Wales (8.00pm)

8.00 *Tomorrow's World*. The Prince of Wales meets the finalists in the award for innovation which bears his name at Sandringham House in Norfolk. He tries out some of the inventions, test-driving the prototype of a British-built

sports car and learning how to print on the surface of an egg, and reviews the progress of previous finalists and winners

8.45 *World Cup Report*. The latest news from Rome of the games between the hosts, Italy, and the United States in group A. The early form of the two teams suggests a victory for Italy by several goals but after the performances of Costa Rica and Cameroon in this competition anything is possible. Also, Yugoslavia v Colombia (group D) and Cameroon v Romania (group B)
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather
9.30 *Victoria Wood: Men's Suits*. In *Thimbleberry Doodah*, the first of six short comedy plays from the inventive mind of Victoria Wood. A gentle lampoon on a fashionable health farm run by Julie Walters, it has flashes of Wood's perceptive wit but disappointingly fails to stay to the pace (1). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: *Spotlight*
10.00 *World Cup Report*. Highlights of Italy v USA, Yugoslavia v Colombia and Cameroon v Romania
10.45 *Question Time*. Peter Sissons hosts another bout of intense political discourse and is joined at the Greenwood Theatre by Tony Benn, MP; David Blake, deputy editor of *The Sunday Correspondent*; Chris Patten, MP, Secretary of State for the Environment; and Ann Burdis, head of marketing, Canary Wharf, London
11.45 Weather. Northern Ireland: Victoria Wood

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: *Force and Violence*. Ends at 7.10
8.00 News
8.15 Westminster presented by Brian Curtis
9.00 Daytime on Two
2.00 News and weather followed by *Watch*. Creatures in rock pools (1)
2.15 Tennis. Coverage of the Strela Ariots championships at the Queen's Club, London. Can Ivan Lendl retain his title and use the practice on grass to make yet another bid for the championship he has never won, Wimbledon?
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live. Includes prime minister's question time 3.50 News, regional news and weather
4.00 Tennis. Further coverage of the Strela Ariots championships from the Queen's Club in West London. With Wimbledon only 11 days away the heat is on for the big stars. The matches played today will decide who goes on to the quarter-finals
5.30 Beating Retreat. The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, takes the salute at a musical evening on Horse Guards Parade. Musical accompaniment is provided by the Massed Pipes and Drums and Massed Bands of the Scottish Division
7.35 Business Matters: End of the Giants? In the first of two interviews, David Lornax talks to Dr Rosenthal, Mita Kanter from the Harvard Business School about the current business revolution. Wales: *Gardening Together*
8.00 City Lights: *Thirtynothing*. Gerard Kelly stars in the Scottish sitcom about a frustrated writer who works as a bank clerk. (Ceefax)
8.30 On the Line. With the World Cup well under way, tonight's edition of the lively sports magazine examines how English fans are getting on with the

locals in Italy. There is also a report on the battle between the small Automobile Club d'Occitan and the French governing body FISA for the rights to the Le Mans 24-hour motor race

9.00 *The Travel Show*. The holiday magazine that tries to get behind the brochures and tell the truth returns for a new series. Andy Crane reports from the Greek holiday island of Mykonos, and John Thirlwall is busy making a series of five films on location around the world about such diverse places as Mambien in Czechoslovakia and Lake Tiberius in Israel. There are also regular updates on last-minute bargains, suggestions for the independent traveller and weather information



Still cheery: the women of Ethiopia (8.30pm)

when they are barely mature and are expected to further the species by producing endless children. Wedding-seizing seems almost a ritual. A prospective husband says with a huge grin that of course he will beat his wife, otherwise she will not listen. A widow is not allowed to remarry but that is no reason for not bearing children. The custom is that she moves in with her husband's brother and starts bearing his. In the circumstances, the women remain unshakably cheerful, using harvest celebrations to tease and mock the men and get some of their own back. (Ceefax)

10.20 10 x 10: *A Woman's Touch*

● Taking on the challenge of a 10 minute documentary, debut director Karen Stowe has found an excellent subject in Michelle Aboro, a professional kick-boxer. Michelle's step-father worked as a sparring partner to Muhammed Ali, and had conventional boxing not been banned to women, that would have been her trade. The ruling bodies of kick-boxing practise no such discrimination and Michelle is a mite champion. Whether she has a ready supply of opponents is not made clear. Her fierce contention that "all women have aggression in them", coupled with her obvious readiness to use it, may ensure that she gets fewer in the future. I am not sure whether women taking on men by becoming more like them is really liberation but Michelle has no such doubts. The merit of Stowe's film is that it raises such issues and leaves you wanting more

10.30 *Newsworld* presented by Peter Snow

11.15 *The Late Show*. Last in the current series of the arts and media magazine

11.55 Weather

12.00 Open University: *Weekend Outlook*

12.05am Through the Looking Glass. Ends at 12.35

9.30 Under the Sun: *The Women Who Smile*. ● Joanna Hearn's film comes from Ethiopia and once is not an account of wife and female. Living in the remote south-west corner of the country, the Hamer community has been untouched by the 20th century and is splendid material for television anthropologists. Head's concern is with the women and at first glance there is little for feminists to applaud. Girls get pushed off into arranged marriages

9.30 *News at Ten*

9.30 *Evening News*

9.35 *Composers of the Week*

9.35 *Morning Concert* (contd):

Verdi (Overture), Lusa Miller: Vienna PO under Giuseppe Sinopoli; Rachmaninov (Violoncello Concerto); Schubert (Violin Concerto No 5 in A minor); Lamoureux Concerts Orchestra under Manuel Rosenthal, with Arthur Grumiaux; Rimsky-Korsakov (Suite Tzar Sultan); Pianoforte under Vladimir Ashkenazy)

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10.00 *News*

Labour attacks Young's top job

By RICHARD FORD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour party yesterday criticised as "privatisation sleaze" the appointment of the former cabinet minister, Lord Young of Graffham, as executive chairman of Cable and Wireless, which was sold to the public nine years ago.

The announcement brought renewed criticism from Labour about cabinet ministers taking lucrative jobs in the city and industry on leaving government.

Gordon Brown, the shadow trade and industry spokesman, and the union representing senior civil servants called for the government to introduce regulations governing the appointment of former ministers to commercial organisations.

Lord Young, the fifth former cabinet member to join the board of a firm privatised during Mrs Thatcher's administration, will become executive chairman, on a salary of about £400,000 a year, in October on the retirement of Lord Sharp, present chairman and chief executive.

The appointment was defended by Gordon Owen, the deputy chief executive of Cable and Wireless, who said Lord Young had been chosen for his experience as a businessman. It was not necessary to have experience of telecommunications to be chairman of the company, he added.

However, Mr Brown said there would be disgust and anger at the appointment.

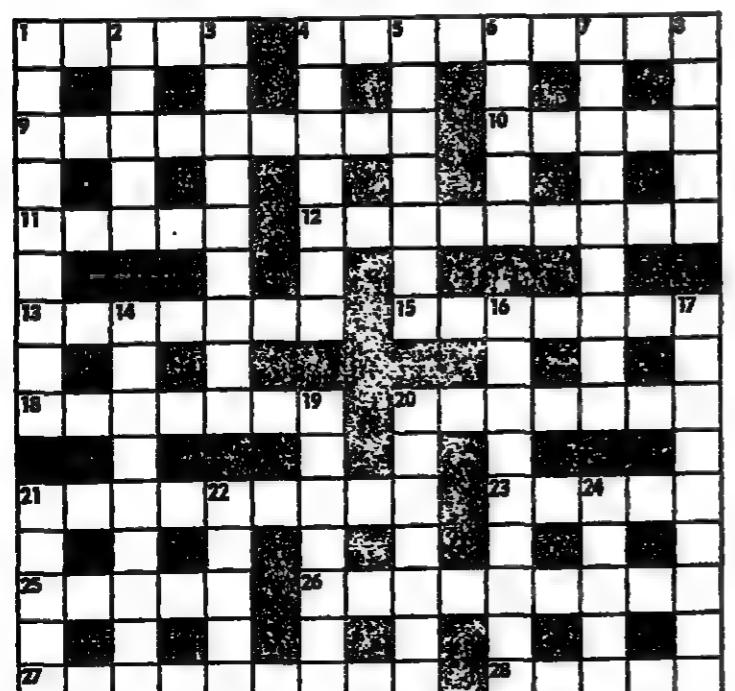
Norman Tebbit, former chairman of the Conservative party, last night appeared to criticise Lord Young for taking up the appointment 15 months after leaving the department of trade and industry.

While welcoming the fact that Lord Young was joining the firm, he said in an article in the *Evening Standard* that he thought former ministers should normally leave a decent interval of, say, two years before holding responsibilities which affect particular businesses and accepting posts with them.

Elizabeth Symons, general secretary of the First Division association which represent senior civil servants, said rules were in operation to avoid the suspicion that a civil servant might act, in his state capacity, in a way that would benefit a company, and then join the firm. "If it is important for civil servants who are not decision takers, how much more important must it be for the ministers who do take the decisions," she said.

Parliament, page 8
Leading article, page 15
C&W results, page 25

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,320



ACROSS

- 1 Man who's received everywhere (5).
- 4 Held and taken to court about blow (9).
- 9 In speech, took a chance and skipped a bit (9).
- 10 The clasp to show relish (5).
- 11 Train user starts to run coach (5).
- 12 Finally take one's turn, changing in private (5,4).
- 13 Opposed to profit, in a way (7).
- 15 Hector's a soldier (7).
- 18 Object is dispatched after the beginning of December (7).
- 20 "Scatter" appear in Webster's new edition (7).

Solutions to Puzzles No 18,319
CHALCEDONY SAGE
CALAIS COX
CELIBERATE PROA
COIE AND EBC
OVEN CORMORANT
OEE TYUOJI
MARATHON ABBEY
NMR ALMAGU
INDIAN ASTEROID
BAK S B DRACKE
CARMELITE ELIANA
IL RIGS STAAT
EDIT POSTILLION
NU UO E HUO
TODA CROSSROADS

21 In the square Olive's dog is exemplary (9).

23 One's girl coming out — (5).

25 ... of Greece — from Heraklion, I conjecture (5).

26 Edmund's cavalry (9).

27 Not, so to speak, a Sultan (5,4).

28 Each single woman ready to lose heart (5).

DOWN

- 1 Good writing is most to be trusted (5-4).
- 2 In the Channel, use American compass (5).
- 3 Ordering a new border (3,6).
- 4 Army advanced, having received one signal (7).
- 5 Duke, trapped in sitting, kept quiet (7).
- 6 The standard very low score (5).
- 7 Girl's meeting Jack, perhaps, what a shame! (9).
- 8 Refuse to read D Lawrence (5).
- 14 Notes to a composer are dry (9).
- 16 Co-ordinates cases, bias being adjusted (9).
- 17 Virgin Island, for example, is US territory (3,6).
- 19 A joint deposit made (7).
- 20 Medical attendant of young girl put up in this town (7).
- 21 Whip head off spring (5).
- 22 King, they say, takes heed (5).
- 24 Stal money during party (5).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard
COSCINOMANCY

a. Omitting every third
b. Divination by sieve
c. The Eskimo grand council

SPAGYRIC

a. Alchemical
b. A curving poem
c. Making burly

PACO

a. An alpaca
b. An unfeasted bran roll

ECOSTATE

a. Ribless
b. An EC state
c. A semi-state

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & the South
National motorways
C London (within M 6 & M25) 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1 722
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T 723
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23 734
M-ways/roads M23-M4 735
M25 London Orbital only 736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways 737
West Country 728
Midlands 740
East Anglia 741
North-west England 742
North-east England 743
Scotland 744
Northern Ireland 745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

Concise crossword, page 17

WEATHER

After a cloudy start, Wales and western parts of England and Scotland should become brighter with sunny spells. Northwest Scotland will become cloudy later with patchy drizzle. Eastern parts of England and Scotland will be rather cloudy, with perhaps some brighter spells away from eastern coasts. Outlook: bright or sunny spells, but cloudy at times, especially in the east; becoming dry in all areas.

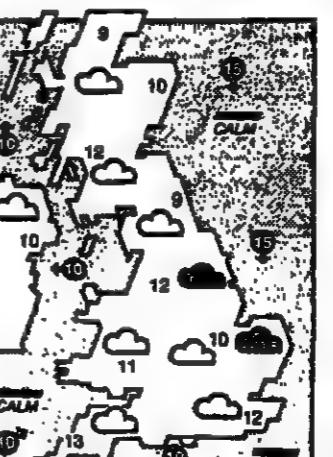
ABROAD

Midday (0800-1600 BST):
Austria 25 75 1
Belgium 26 79 1
Bulgaria 27 81 1
Croatia 27 81 1
Denmark 26 79 1
Finland 26 79 1
Greece 26 79 1
Hungary 26 79 1
Iceland 26 79 1
Ireland 26 79 1
Italy 26 79 1
Latvia 26 79 1
Lithuania 26 79 1
Luxembourg 26 79 1
Malta 26 79 1
Netherlands 26 79 1
Norway 26 79 1
Poland 26 79 1
Portugal 26 79 1
Romania 26 79 1
Slovenia 26 79 1
Spain 26 79 1
Sri Lanka 26 79 1
Switzerland 26 79 1
Turkey 26 79 1
Ukraine 26 79 1
Uzbekistan 26 79 1
Yugoslavia 26 79 1

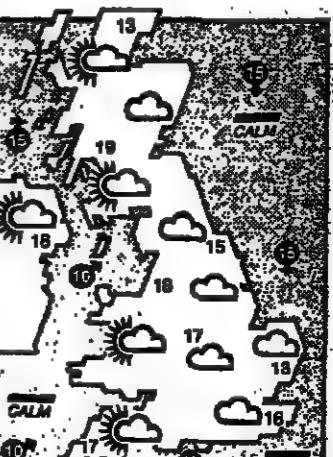
AROUND BRITAIN

Midday (0800-1600 BST):
Belfast 26 79 1
Birmingham 26 79 1
Cardiff 26 79 1
Edinburgh 26 79 1
Glasgow 26 79 1
London 26 79 1
Newcastle 26 79 1
Sheffield 26 79 1
Southampton 26 79 1
Wales 26 79 1

AM



PM



YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c. cloud; f. fair; r. rain; s. sun.

Belfast 15 57c Birmingham 14 57c
Cardiff 13 55c Edinburgh 14 57c
Glasgow 14 57c London 15 61c
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Wales

- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-31
- LAW 32
- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 33-36
- FOCUS ON INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY 37-39
- FOCUS ON IPSWICH AND EAST SUFFOLK 40,41
- SPORT 43-48

Dunsdale director remanded in custody

ROBERT Miller, the financier, facing two charges under the Theft Act 1968, relating to the collapse of Dunsdale Securities, the investment company, was remanded in custody until June 22 at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday (Angela Mackay writes).

Mr Miller, the sole director of Dunsdale, did not make an application for bail.

Mr Miller, aged 39, was charged with two counts of them under section 15. He was charged with dishonesty, obtaining two cheques, the first for £20,000 and the second for £30,000, by falsely representing that the proceeds would be invested in government securities.

Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

The company, based in Park Lane, central London, collapsed last week owing at least £1 million to about 220 creditors.

Tea regulation, page 27

Barclays to raise \$100m

Barclays Bank proposes to raise \$100 million in America through an issue of fixed rate non-cumulative dollar-denominated preference shares. The shares will be issued in two series and will be represented by American depositary shares.

The preference shares will rank as tier one capital under international capital adequacy rules. The shares will have no fixed maturity but can be redeemed by Barclays after ten years subject to certain conditions. Barclays raised \$500 million last year through a similar issue.

Merrill Lynch Capital Markets is adviser and lead manager, and Goldman, Sachs & Co and Shearson Lehman Hutton are co-managers leading the underwriting group.

Salvesen ahead

Shares in Christian Salvesen, the transport, food and industrial services group, jumped 15p to 182p on pre-tax profits of £62.1 million, against £52.4 million, in the year to end March. A 3.5p final dividend makes a total of 6p (4.8p).

Tempus, page 27

THE POUND

US dollar 1.7075 (+0.0020)
W German mark 2.8891 (+0.0051)
Exchange Index 90.6 (+0.3)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1933.2 (+32.2)
FT-SE 100 2405.4 (+34.7)
New York Dow Jones 2935.15 (+1.73)
Closing Prices ... Page 31

Major Indices and major changes

Page 29

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base: 15%
3-month Interbank 14 1/2%
3-month eligible bills: 14 1/2%
US: Prime Rate: 8%
3-month Treasury Bills: 7.69-7.88%
30-year bonds: 103 1/2-103 1/4

CURRENCIES

London: £1.7075
E: DM1.6921
E: DM1.6451
E: FF1.7148
E: Yen254.23
E: Index 90.6
ECU 50.712973
E: ECU1.402577

GOLD

London Fixing: AM \$550.00 cm-\$50.50
AM \$580.75-51.25 (+20.00-
20.50)
New York: Comex \$580.70-51.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jul) \$16.20 bbl (\$16.25)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

Australia \$ 2.345
Austria Sch 2.185
Belgium Fr 1.985
Canada \$ 2.074
Denmark Kr 1.151
Iceland Kr 7.11
France Fr 3.004
Germany DM 288.70
Greece Dr 2.7270
Hong Kong \$ 13.91
Italy Lira 2.065
Japan Yen 3.185
Netherlands Gld 3.365
Norway Kr 11.60
Portugal Esc 5.10
South Africa Rand 1.174
Spain Pes 1.085
Sweden Kr 2.552
United Kingdom 24.00
Yugoslav Dr 16.00

Rates for small denominations only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

Retail Price Index: 125.1 (April)

For full details see page 29

Blacks unit bought by managers

BLACKS Leisure, the debilitated retail group, has sold SWI, its menswear subsidiary, to its management for £800,000. In April, Blacks said that because of accounting inaccuracies at Miss Sam, another subsidiary, group results would be below expectations.

David Gelernter, James Carroll and Paul Cooke, three executive directors, are buying SWI. They will pay £500,000 initially, followed by six monthly instalments of £50,000, starting in January 1991.

SWI will pay £47,300 of a £137,922 net inter-company loan from Blacks in December 1990. The balance will be met by Blacks' subscribing for £90,600 of preference shares in SWI. Mr Simon Bentley, the chief executive of Blacks, could not say how the sale would affect Blacks' gearing.

Single currency

The European Community will probably have a single currency within five years, but only after a period of increased volatility for its existing currencies. Thomas Johnson, president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust, the American bank, said yesterday. He also expects a European central bank to be created.

Foxboro attracts

Foxboro Co, the American industrial process control group based in Massachusetts, said it has received several proposals to buy all its shares. Possible buyers are thought to include Dresser Industries and Westinghouse, both of the US and Asea Brown Boveri, the Swiss-Swedish engineering and industrial group.

Firms cautious

Employers are being more cautious about recruitment for the coming third quarter, says a survey by Manpower, the employment services company. However, more employers hope to increase their labour force over the three months.

New director

John Foster & Son, the Bradford cloth maker, has appointed Graham Creswick as finance director from August. He succeeds David Breton. Mr Creswick is group financial director of Silentnight Holdings. Mr Breton, aged 61, will retire next year.

Directors look for refinancing deal at troubled Charterhall

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

CHARTERHALL, the troubled footwear and textile company, has told its shareholders that the company's two remaining executive directors are attempting to refinance the group which has debt of about £35 million.

The company, which made losses of £26 million in the six months to December, will show a deficiency on the book value of shareholders' funds for the year to June. Charterhall had shareholder funds of £77.6 million last year.

More than 100 shareholders gathered at the extraordinary meeting in London yesterday to hear the first full report of the problems, and the run-up to the resignation of Russell Goward, chairman and chief executive, and three other executive directors.

Graham Steele and John Brimley, who are now running the group, said that a new chairman was being sought.

DPR Futures' aim was 'to make money for clients'

From A CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER director of a City broking firm, accused of cheating investors out of millions of pounds, told an Old Bailey jury: "Our aim was to make as much money as possible for our clients."

Marcus Deller, aged 28, who left the company, DPR Futures, at the end of 1987 with a golden handshake of £500,000, said he had no idea that salesmen under his control were using "outrageous and unscrupulous" methods to persuade investors to part with large sums of money.

Asked about the sales pitch of one employee, Simon Farid, aged 28, who, the court has heard, lied to potential investors and promised one he could make him £1 million pounds, Mr Deller said: "That is outrageous. I would not approve of that at all."

Mr Deller strenuously denied that these methods were commonplace among staff at

which looks set to fall to seven Australian banks.

Charterhall has the support of the State Bank of New South Wales which has deferred the interest and payment of a £97.3 million loan until September 1991.

The conditions of the loan include granting state bank warrants for 5 per cent of the share capital of each of the Tandem and Corah divisions and implementing an executive share option scheme accounting for another 5 per cent.

Shareholders will vote on these issues when the recapitalisation scheme is put to them in September.

The meeting was told that Corah is trading profitably but Tandem is not. The group should be operationally profitable in the six months to June 1991 but the directors could not say when the group would return to pre-tax profits.

Heath trust fund to keep top staff



Richard Fielding: incentive scheme introduced

By MARTIN WALLER

CE HEATH, the insurance broker chaired by Richard Fielding, is setting up a multi-million pound trust fund linked to its share price in an attempt to lock in high-flying senior executives over the next decade.

Peter Presland, the managing director, said: "We're a people industry, and you need a fair amount of adhesive to keep those people working for the company."

The fund, or deferred benefit incentive scheme, was announced as Heath unveiled pre-tax profits ahead from £24.1 million to £27.3 million in the year to end-March despite higher interest charges and difficult trading conditions.

Pre-interest profits from broking advanced 14 per cent to £14 million, while underwriting increased 23 per cent to £16.3 million.

Heath will soon be choosing which of its 100-odd top executives will be participating in the scheme, which is thought to be unique in the insurance industry although it

has been tried elsewhere in financial services.

Peter Presland, the managing director, said: "We're a people industry, and you need a fair amount of adhesive to keep those people working for the company."

A Jersey-based discretionary trust is being formed, to which Heath is lending £4.5 million interest-free, while a similar amount will be borrowed from banks. The money, along with 5 per cent of Heath's annual pre-tax profits minus the interest charges on its initial £24.5 million contribution, will be used to buy Heath shares on the stock market. This will give the management an incentive to raise the share price, as after eight years at least payments will be made to eligible managers, out of the trust's assets after the repayment of the original loans.

Charges hit Mansfield

HIGHER interest charges and lower profits from the sale of property meant a fall in pre-tax profits from £8.99 million to £8.83 million in the year to end-March from Mansfield Brewery, the Nottinghamshire group.

The prosecution alleges that the City whiz-kids cheated investors, out of millions by promising them they could make a fortune in the high risk futures market.

The trial continues today.

makes 11.3p (9.5p). Both beer volumes and operating profits rose, helped by the warm summer last year and despite the sale of 21 public houses.

But finance charges jumped 21 per cent to £3.55 million as gearing rose from 25 to 30 per cent.

A final dividend of 7.9p

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Third World receives investment warning

THE Third World will have to work still harder to attract investment to prevent it being diverted to Eastern Europe, Barber Conable, the American president of the World Bank, warned yesterday. He said in Bonn that the changes sweeping Eastern Europe would force the developing nations to revamp their economic systems. He foresaw a crucial role for the private sector.

Mr Conable rejected the suggestion that the World Bank was turning its back on the poorer regions and said Eastern Europe was as entitled to borrow as other parts of the world. The World Bank expects to lend about \$7.5 billion to Poland, Hungary and Yugoslavia during the next three years. Mr Conable will meet M Jacques Attali, the French president of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Paris today, to discuss co-operation.

High interest hurts Lookers

HIGH interest charges kept pre-tax profits at Lookers, the car dealer, down to £2.76 million (£2.82 million) in the six months to end-March. The interim dividend is held at 2p. Ken Martindale, the chairman, said business during the first three months to December had been difficult, but had improved considerably in the first quarter of 1990.

European cuts payout

EUROPEAN Colour, the chemical colour manufacturer, has cut its final dividend to 40p, making 60p for the year to end-March against 1.15p in the comparative 15-month period and equivalent to 0.92p on an annualised basis.

The company, formerly Horace Cory, reported a fall in pre-tax profits to £263,000 in the year to end-March against £707,000 in previous 15-month period. Turnover slid to £11.8 million (£16 million), although European sales improved from 9.5 per cent to above 15 per cent. Earnings per share slipped from 10.05p to 7.32p, but the total payout is 4.1p (3.8p).

Craton Lodge cuts losses

CRATON Lodge & Knight, the product development group, lost £97,000 before tax in the six months to end-March after exceptional losses from reorganisation of £58,000, the first set of figures since the rescue, backed by Hillsdown Investment Trust, two months ago. There is again no interim dividend. Last time, the company lost £587,000.

Credit group ahead

LONDON Scottish Bank, the credit company based in Manchester, advanced pre-tax profits from £1.51 million to £1.81 million, or 19.9 per cent, in the six months to May 1. The interim dividend has been increased from 0.75p to 0.875p on fully diluted earnings per share up from 2.1p to 2.4p.

The consumer business has benefited from last year's re-organisation, underwriting profits have helped the insurance business and Robinson Way, the consumer debt collection business is performing well.

We've got connections in all the right places.

Cable & Wireless has specialised in international communications for over a hundred years. Today we provide unique high quality service in over forty countries. Spanning the world, Cable & Wireless's Global Digital Highway is linking customers in key financial and commercial centres.

AROUND THE PACIFIC

IN AMERICA
Over 60,000 business customers in the USA have chosen Cable & Wireless Communications Inc for their long distance telecommunications. Our digital system spans the States from Coast to Coast.

Hong Kong Telecom's 18,000 employees provide one of the most modern telephone services in the world, with more than one phone for every two of Hong Kong's 5.5 million people. Cable & Wireless also has a major holding in IDC connecting customers in Japan to the world via satellite and cable.

AROUND THE CARIBBEAN

Cable & Wireless operates local and international services in 14 Caribbean states, linking them by satellite and, via Bermuda, by fibre optic cable to the world.

IN EUROPE

In the UK Mercury Communications offers its customers a comprehensive high quality telephone and communications service. In 1992 Mercury Personal Communications will launch the world's first truly portable telephone system.

 **Cable and Wireless plc**
THE WORLD TELEPHONE COMPANY
New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4UQ.

If you require a copy of the 1990 Annual Report and Accounts or our new corporate brochure, please contact: Corporate Affairs, Cable and Wireless plc, New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4UQ. Telephone 071 315 4468.

receives
arningsBack for
Arthur Shaw

SIS DAVOUR

SIS ROSE

Hinges on the revolving doors at Lothbury are in danger of overheating as the National Westminster boardroom faces come and go in the aftermath of the Blue Arrow affair. The blue blood is being thinned by a series of appointments from the world way beyond Lombard Street, where profits are made by pleasing the customer rather than from old school ties, and by keeping costs under strict control rather than correctly reading the gilt-edged market.

Since the beginning of last year, 14 directors have slipped their moorings and sailed away. They include the two Greens, who were turned into celebrities by the department of trade and industry, and Lord Boardman, who will possibly go into the history books as the last company chairman to "do the right thing" when let down by those he was responsible for supervising. Others who have left their chairs, if not their mark, at the NatWest table carry such surnames as Money-Coutts, Touche, Cubitt and Boyne. Sir Philip Wilkinson, a deputy chairman, moves out at

the end of this month. Sir Peter Walters went when he was left in second place for the chairman.

Lord Alexander, the barrister-turned-businessman chairman who brought a new dimension to the board and is now rebuilding it again. The two new appointments, Sir Ian MacLaurin and Martin Taylor, are the first positive indications of Alexander's sense of direction. Sir Ian is chairman of Tesco, a company which has managed profitable change to perfection. Taylor, who rubbed shoulders with Alexander at the Takeover Panel, is vice-chairman of Hanson Trust — I say more?

Both are non-executive appointments, but nevertheless carry significant responsibilities: 12 routine meetings a year, plus four "specials" dealing with future planning and results plus commitments to board commit-

tees and the inevitable social functions.

In an admittedly lively market yesterday, NatWest shares bounded 10p to 350p, not quite the best this year, but not far short. The message is that Alexander means business.

Racal

Vodafone continues to churn out the cash for its mostly American shareholders and is providing Racal Electronics, its parent, with a great deal of comfort while its non-telecom interests are undergoing something of a mixed period.

Stripping out the contribution from the 80 per cent-owned Racal Telecom, the rest of Racal Electronics, or "Old Racal" as the market likes to call it, showed

a slight fall at the operating profit level.

Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman of both groups, is perhaps rightly prickly about the performance of old Racal. The Vodafone phenomenon was devised and nurtured within Racal Electronics. It was funded heavily in the dark days when the hefty capital spending needed to set up the infrastructure of the system was, for all the City knew, disappearing into a black hole.

There were those, GEC included, who thought that the government licences to operate the cellphone network were not even worth applying for. But having seized its main chance, old Racal is reaping the benefit of its foresight. Thanks to the cash support from RT last year, a substantial recovery in the

fortunes of old Racal is in sight this year. Without it, an unpopular rights issue might have been necessary. Racal Electronics is heading for a price advance of more than 50 per cent.

The ADR listing for the shares means that US investors, who have shown a great deal more faith in Vodafone than their British counterparts, will now be able to consider the merits of Racal Electronics, too. That can only be good for the rest of the shareholders.

Sugar

Along with beer and the Harrods, the British sugar industry has been effectively been locked into a declining cane market and out of the beet market. Still, the Commission has pulled bigger surprises.

David Brewerton

THE Barlow Clowes affair and the collapse of Hamilton House Associates Ltd, Dunsdale Securities and R&C pose the question: How effective are the Financial Services Act 1986 and the self-regulatory organisations (SRO)?

Any person carrying on investment business in Britain, who is not an exempted person, has to be authorised under the act either directly by the Securities and Investments Board (SIS) or by admission to membership of an SRO. Each of the five SROs has its own lengthy and complex rule book to regulate the activities of members. Anyone who has ever had cause to refer to these rule books will be only too aware that they are a maze in which it is all too easy to get lost. Together with the rule book of the SIB this can only lead to unnecessary costs and lack of unity in the approaches taken by the regulatory bodies.

It becomes apparent upon studying our present regulatory structure that efficiency, and therefore effectiveness, could be improved by streamlining. At present, the SIB acts as an umbrella body with the SROs under it. Efficiency could be improved by having one body with responsibility for the financial services industry as a whole. This body would need proper financing so that it could attract people of the high calibre necessary to draft new rules and police the industry.

David Walker, the chairman of the SIB, recognised the complexity of the SIB rules and proposed amendments in November 1988. However, it soon became clear that the proposals could not simplify the system by themselves and that changes were required to the act. Amendments to the act are being considered, but these would still permit the SIB and SROs to maintain their own separate rules, albeit with greater interaction.

The act was drafted to provide protection to investors and to ensure the financial services industry operated efficiently. While members of the financial services are still operating freely, it appears that they are often doing so without regard to the rules of their SROs, in most cases, no

Streamlining to build muscle into the SIB



David Pine: comparing Britain with the American model

David Pine looks at financial regulation

doubt, due to the complexity of such rules and the obscure meaning of the same.

One area in which there could be considerable improvement is that of compensation. There appears no reason why the financial services industry should not introduce compulsory professional indemnity or fidelity insurance cover equivalent to the schemes run by the Law Society or the Institute of Chartered Accountants. These professional bodies operate compulsory insurance schemes to protect the public and there is no limit on the amount of compensation a claimant can receive. This is

in strict contrast to the compensation scheme operated by the SIB, where the maximum a claimant can receive is the sum of £48,000 provided that his claim constitutes an eligible claim within the rules of the compensation scheme.

The SROs recognise the benefits of adequate insurance cover as was shown by the attempts of the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) to ensure its members obtained insurance cover. The level which was proposed was £100,000, but the proposals failed to be implemented. Therefore, an

area which there could be considerable improvement is that of compensation. There appears no reason why the financial services industry should not introduce compulsory professional indemnity or fidelity insurance cover equivalent to the schemes run by the Law Society or the Institute of Chartered Accountants. These professional bodies operate compulsory insurance schemes to protect the public and there is no limit on the amount of compensation a claimant can receive. This is

in strict contrast to the compensation scheme operated by the SIB, where the maximum a claimant can receive is the sum of £48,000 provided that his claim constitutes an eligible claim within the rules of the compensation scheme.

It soon becomes apparent why the SEC is regarded with awe and a degree of fear by the bodies it regulates. This is in stark contrast to the SIB, which, despite the fact that it used its powers to restrict or close down the businesses of firms on 23 occasions in its first year of operation, still does not appear to be regarded as a real force by many financial service operators.

David Pine is a senior partner with Alexander Tatton & Co, the Manchester solicitor, who represented all the investors in Barlow Clowes, the failed investment group.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

New billing for Kitcat star

BRUCE Jones, Kitcat & Aitken's star leisure analyst, has, as predicted in the *City Diary*, wasted no time in finding lucrative employment elsewhere. Jones, who, together with his team mate Roy Owens, is ranked number three in both the *Exetel* and *Institutional Investor* league tables, after James Capel and BZW, heard the news that Kitcat was withdrawing from the UK market, with the loss of 120 jobs, while on a working visit to Rank Organisation's flagship leisure centre in Stoke-on-Trent. He was then promptly spotted swapping home telephone numbers with Mark Loveland of Warburg Securities, and Peter Joseph, of Smith New Court, both of whom were also on the Rank trip. And now, barely a fortnight later, both he and Owens have indeed signed up to join Smith New Court, to work alongside Joseph. "They had a strong following at Kitcat but because the firm didn't do any market making it wasn't turned into market share," Joseph, himself ranked eighth, tells me. "We had a smaller following but greater market share and now we hope to improve both market share and following." The new recruits start on Monday.

Double and quits

MICHAEL Ashcroft, the chief of ADT Group, which is based in Bermuda, has made a profit of £185,000 on an investment

of £90,000 that he made seven years ago in Binns Cornwall, the financial public relations firm Ashcroft, a financial supporter of the Conservative party, negotiated the option to acquire a 26 per cent holding in the company for £1 when he made the original loan of £90,000 in 1983. Although the loan was subsequently repaid, Ashcroft exercised his option in 1988, entitling him to half the holding of the company's founder, Peter Binns. After an acrimonious battle, Binns delivered the stock and has since left the firm, resurfacing a couple of weeks ago at Haggie, another City PR company. Richard Oldworth, Binns Cornwall's new chief executive, tells me that both Binns and Ashcroft have now been bought out and that, in two weeks, the firm will be changing its name to Bu-

DURING an eye test at a New York school, youngsters were asked to read the bottom line of the optician's chart. One youngster looked hard, then looked up and said: "Made in Japan."

Words of wisdom

THE private enterprises of Stephen Lewis, the prophet of doom and gloom in the Square Mile, and otherwise known, until recently, for being the gurus guru at UBS Phillips & Drew, are expanding. Lewis, who predicted, after the stock market crash in 1987, that 50,000 City jobs would go, is still a consultant to P&D but now running Fifth Horseman Publications, which analyses the gilt and equity markets. He is on the brink of launching a special Japanese edition of his weekly product. "But it will have to be completely repackaged and rewritten for the Japanese market — I don't think they understand our sense of humour," says Lewis, known for his exceptionally dry wit. He is in talks with two or three independent Japanese financial publishing firms, about establishing reciprocal distribution arrangements. Lewis is already known to regular readers of *Nikkei Sangyo Shim bun*, the Japanese equivalent of the *Financial Times*, since he writes a column in it.



"Cable and Wireless have scored the equaliser Mr Tebbit."

chanan Communications. "It means that 51 per cent of the company is now available for redistribution among our employees," Oldworth, aged 33, said.

File a flask

THE latest accessory for City slickers is no longer the personal organiser but the filoflask. The invention, a normal personal organiser but with a hip flask fitted inside, is being marketed as the answer for any whiz-kid who fancies the odd sly tipple without ruining a reputation. It has been developed by Acorn Productions, which is based in Birmingham. One of the flask's creators, Peter Davis, aged 36, says: "I know they've had a hard time of it lately, but I can't see a whiz-kid sitting on a train gulping from a bottle in a brown paper bag. Our invention is perfect." Officially branded as the "disorganiser flask," orders for 2,000, at £25 each, have already been placed. "They'll certainly be disorganized after they've consumed the contents," Davis adds.

FROM the New Zealand Times: "Napier is an eight-year-old gelding by Taipan II from Miss Viva, owned and trained at Riverton by John Carron who races him with his wife."

Carol Leonard

TEMPUS

Regalian's rough ride

IT IS three years since Regalian Properties paid £22 million for a 0.64-acre site next to Kensington Gardens in central London.

At the time, the development planned for the site (20 flats priced at between £2 million and £10 million) looked like the sort of expensive toy occasionally indulged in by a company whose core business is thriving as Regalian's then was.

Three years on, the company has 700 unsold flats, and Kensington Palace Gardens is the only residential development in progress. Future profits, particularly in 1991/92, look heavily dependent on its success.

Current profits are being provided by another 1987 acquisition, the "Green Giant" site next to London's Vauxhall Bridge. Having cleverly swapped a residential planning permission for a 450,000 sq ft office consent, Regalian last year sold the site to the Property Services Agency for more than £90 million, cash up front.

The cash earned interest of

£11.8 million last year, more than the group's pre-tax profits of £11 million in the year to March, down from £25.5 million. Profits could be about the same in 1990/91. Unless Regalian hits a cash bind, its shares, now 69p, against an asset value of 150p or so, have long-term recovery potential.

C&W

CABLE & Wireless needs to demonstrate continuing high growth to justify the share rating earned under Lord Sharp's leadership since privatisation. At 369p, the shares sell at 18.2 times earnings with a dividend yield of only 2.3 per cent.

That has been deserved. The 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profit to £527 million in the year to end March comes down to a 12 per cent rise in earnings per share due to higher minorities, partly through expansion in the Caribbean.

C&W clearly thinks earnings are unrepresentative since it has raised the dividend by 25 per cent. Certainly the under-

taker spillages and food scares, its food processing operations are benefiting from the "flight to quality" among the major retailers while Vokoma claims to be world leader in the control of water-borne oil pollution.

Chris Masters, the chief executive, has shown himself keen to leave long-established but unprofitable businesses such as shipping and commodity cold-storage.

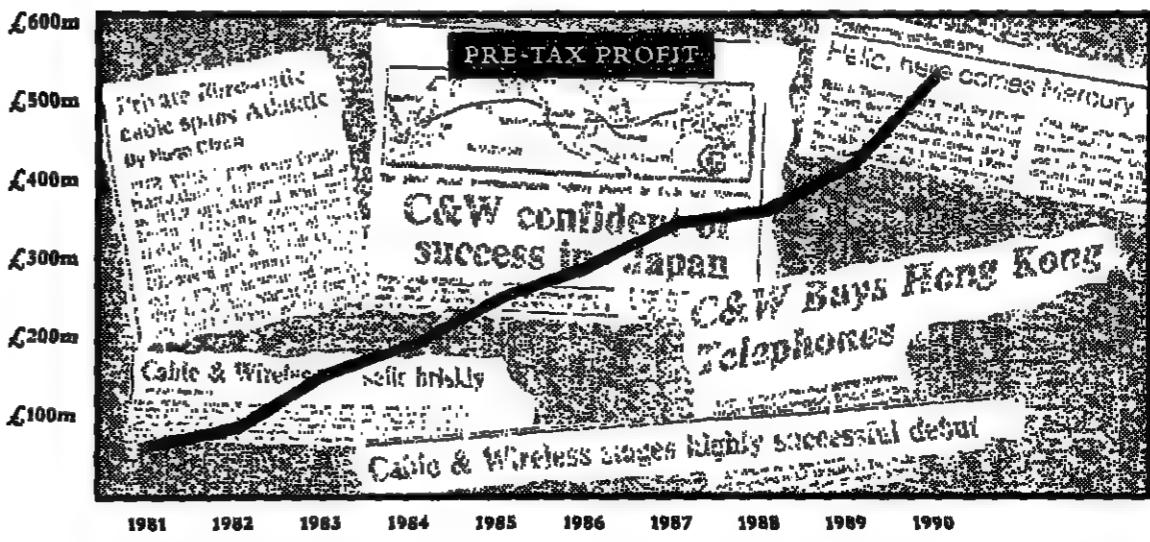
Earnings per share jumped 25 per cent to 15p in the year to end March, while pre-tax profits, despite an unexpected £2.2 million provision for reorganisation costs, comfortably beat City forecasts, ahead 18.5 per cent at £52.1 million.

The brick division was flat and can look to little progress in the current year, while there must be doubt over parts of distribution and cold storage.

Food processing will again be strong, as will specialist hire.

The shares jumped 15p to 182p, putting them on a multiple of 11, assuming £68.5 million pre-tax this year. Expect some consolidation, but they look good value long-term.

Accelerating growth boosts prospects for the '90's.



- Trading profit has increased by 54% to £564m — an increase of £197m.
- Profit before tax has increased by 25% to £527m — an increase of £107m.
- Turnover exceeded £2 billion — an increase of 51%.
- Earnings per share has increased by 12% to 31.3p.
- Recommended full year dividend increased by 25% to 10.0p.
- Net gearing at 31 March 1990 is zero.

CABLE & WIRELESS ANNUAL RESULTS

(Audited Results)	1990 £m	1989 £m	% Growth
Turnover	2,316	1,534	51%
Profit before taxation	527	420	25%
Earnings per share	31.3p	27.9p	12%
Recommended dividend per share	10.0p	7.98p	25%

Cable and Wireless plc
THE WORLD TELEPHONE COMPANY

New Mercury House, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4UQ.

Back shares drive call to industry

SIR John Harvey-Jones, president of the wider share ownership council, has called on British industry to back a drive to encourage the public to buy shares.

But said the loss of Edgar Palamountain, the chairman, who died suddenly last week, would set back the council's efforts by at least a year.

At the council's annual meeting in London, Sir John said that much of the next year would be spent in planning the way forward, before a new drive could get off the ground.

Sir Peter Thompson, chairman of NFC, said that awareness of shares was still too low, even though privatisations had increased the number of small shareholders.

Peter Rawlins, chief executive of the Stock Exchange, gave a warning that promoting share ownership would not be cheap. The Stock Exchange alone has spent £500,000 a year for the last seven years promoting shares.

Hughes ahead

HT HUGHES, the waste disposal group, made pre-tax profits of £2.4 million in the year to February, an increase of 30 per cent. Earnings per share fell from 6p last year to 5.7p. The final dividend is increased to 1.68p, a share (1.36p) to give a total distribution of 3p a share (2.48p).

PCT up 17.8%

PCT Group, which develops and markets power tools and lifting and welding equipment, improved pre-tax profits by 17.8 per cent to £1.02 million in the year to end-December. Turnover grew by 9 per cent to £18.7 million. Interest costs rose by 34 per cent to £690,000. Earnings per share climbed from 19.4p to 22.9p. The final dividend is up from 3.1p to 3.6p, making a total of 5.8p for the year (5p).

Dividend raised

M&G Second Dual Trust has raised its dividend from 18.8p to 22.1p for the year to end-May, reflecting the rise in earnings per income share. The asset value of the capital shares was 477.3p against 476.5p a year ago. The income shares rose 7p to 19.2p and the capital shares by 10p to 360p.

Chemring slips

Chemring Group, the electronics and defence equipment manufacturer, saw pre-tax profits slip from £2.29 million to £2.0 million in the year to March 30. The interim dividend is, however, raised from 8.25p to 9p.

Japan shelves theory on 'beneficial' trade surplus

From JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

ALARMED by sharp criticism from Washington and eager to avoid another trade dispute, Tokyo is shelving its new and controversial theory that Japan's trade surpluses are beneficial and necessary for the world's economic well-being.

The decision to play down the argument was made at a private meeting of top bureaucrats from Japan's trade and industry, foreign and finance ministries, a senior foreign ministry source said.

The questionable new theory on the desirability of Japan's current account surplus gained official approval a fortnight ago in a finance

A high-ranking US official told Japan's Kyodo news agency: "It is equivalent to saying that other countries

have a right to have a current account deficit."

The official added that the US had a current account deficit but continued to extend economic aid to developing countries.

What has annoyed many US officials, including Nicholas Brady, the US treasury secretary, is that Japan has launched its new thinking so soon after pledging to do its utmost to whittle down its \$49 billion trade surplus with America.

It was fear of renewed bickering between Washington and Tokyo — relations between the two capitals deteriorated so much recently

that Japan's foreign minister called it a matter for "crisis management" — that persuaded the government to beat a retreat on the surplus issue.

But although the Japanese government appears to have decided not to boast about its current account surplus, economists say that the recent fall in Japan's trade balance is running out of steam and that Japan's external surpluses could soon be rising again, with or without the government's blessing.

That could put Japan's trade surplus back on top of Washington's agenda by the end of the year.

American brokers 'overpaid'

From PHILIP ROBINSON
IN LOS ANGELES

STOCKBROKERS who survived the 1987 Wall Street crash are still being paid far too much compared with the profits of their employers, says the annual report from the Securities Industry Association, *From Riches to Rags*.

The association says that, in the past ten years, profit per employee on Wall Street more than halved to just above \$8,000, while average pay still runs at more than \$87,000.

Revenue for the 355 houses that are members of the New York Stock Exchange rose 15 per cent last year, but pre-tax profits fell more than a quarter.

The problem, say analysts, is that pay is linked not to profit performance but to raising revenue.

Investment bankers Merrill Lynch and Shearson Lehman Hutton are now making renewed attempts to link personal reward to profit.

Goodman dairy plan for Food Industries

By DEREK HARRIS
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LARRY Goodman's Food Industries, which is based in the Irish Republic and is Europe's leading meat processor and exporter, is seeking a stake in two Irish farmer co-operatives to set up one of the largest dairy groups in the country.

Mr Goodman, who is ambitious to expand in agriculture ahead of the single European market, has acquired three former dairy co-operatives in the republic over the past two and a half years. In the latest deal he is offering to inject the Food Industries dairy business into a new entity, United Dairies.

In Mr Goodman's sights are the Killeshandra and Lough Erne co-operatives in the northeast of the republic. Initially, Food Industries would have a 40 per cent stake in United. There would be an option for the incoming farmer shareholders to sell out so that Mr Goodman, who owns 70 per cent of Food Industries, could gain control of United at some point.

The United plan envisages management control, but not by the board, by Food Industries which is receiving 6 per cent net margin returns from its dairy business compared, it is claimed, to 3 per cent or less in the other co-ops.

Last December, as well as the two co-ops now being targeted, there was one other sizeable operation, Town of Monganahan co-op, that Food Industries was interested in, but that spurned the Goodman advance.

The two remaining co-ops have suggested a merger of the pair under the banner of Lakeland involving a nominal offer of £30.5 million. The proposal goes before members on June 22.

However, the United plan, which is for cash, guarantees £37.5 million so the Goodman camp is hoping that the co-op members will reject the Lakeland offer and turn to the offer from Food Industries.

Growth in exports helps advance Cape 31% to £17m

By PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Cape, the fire protection to building products and industrial contracting group, advanced by 15p to 190p after better-than-expected results.

Pre-tax profits advanced by 31.3 per cent to £17.8 million in the year to end-March, principally due to a combination of increased exports, reduced costs and maintained margins.

Group turnover grew 7.6 per cent to £171 million, with exports accounting for about 23 per cent.

Operating profits from building and architectural products, which provide the lion's share of earnings, climbed 20.6 per cent to £14.3 million, on sales 6 per cent ahead at £85.6 million.

The three industrial services divisions increased operating profits by 26.5 per cent to £3.92 million, on sales up 10 per cent at £86.5 million.

Cape, which is a former asbestos maker, paid £1.25 million compensation for industrial disease.

Mr Farbrother said that during the year, all asbestos-based manufacturing operations had ceased, the remaining South African subsidiary sold, and the American litigation in the British High Court ended.

He added that order books across the group were good and the company was well placed to build on its strengths for the future.

Since the year-end, the company has purchased Thermacoustic Products, a major ceiling manufacturing group, which is expected to make a healthy contribution this year.

Paul McDonnell at Williams de Broth, the broker, is looking for pre-tax profits of about £21 million in the current year.



Herbert: export growth

Europe and the Far East, Michael Farbrother, chief executive, said: "Exports have grown. Europe improved by 17 per cent and the Far East increased by 30 per cent. We see that continuing."

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Waddington clear-out



Victor Watson: expects plastic and paper packaging divisions to grow

JOHN Waddington, the packaging and board games group, has had a corporate clear-out after a tough trading year that saw pre-tax profits fall by 12.5 per cent (Gillian Bowditch writes).

In the past few months the group has sold four companies and closed two others in order to restructure the business and reduce gearing to 40 per cent.

Pre-tax profits for the year to March fell from £20.1 million to £17.6 million. After tax and a £3.72 million extraordinary charge for restructuring costs, profits were £9.18 million down from £13.2 million. Sales rose from £207 million to £238 million and earnings per share fell from 18.8p to 16.3p. The final dividend is 4.3p, making 7.9p up from 7.3p.

David Perry, the group's chief executive, said that the past year had been one of the most difficult trading periods in recent history.

"High interest rates, pressures on volume and margins together with significant spending on capital investment in our core activities has produced an expected fall in profits and earnings per share," he said.

Victor Watson, the chairman, said he expected the main growth in the future to come from the plastic packaging and paper packaging divisions. Sales of Monopoly

Shares in the group were up 1p to 155p.



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ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000 Vol '000 Vol '000 Vol '000

Index	Value	Daily chg. (£)	Yearly chg. (£)	Daily chg. (£)	Yearly chg. (£)
The World (free)	730.1	-0.3	-13.4	0.3	-6.4
EEAFE (free)	139.4	-0.3	-13.6	0.2	-6.1
Europe (free)	1266.5	-0.3	-18.7	0.1	-14.1
Europe (free)	129.9	-0.3	-19.0	0.0	-11.3
North America (free)	159.5	0.2	-2.4	0.2	-1.1
Nordic (free)	523.1	-0.4	-2.8	0.0	3.1
Canada (free)	155.4	-0.6	-1.1	-0.2	-0.2
Denmark (free)	515.2	-0.5	-5.2	-0.1	-11.8
Finland (free)	247.4	-0.5	-5.2	-0.1	-14.6
France (free)	129.0	-0.6	-27.9	-0.1	-23.5
Germany (free)	414.4	-0.6	-28.4	-0.2	-24.0
Austria (free)	239.8	0.3	-13.7	0.8	-6.5
Belgium (free)	175.6	-0.5	-18.2	0.0	-25.3
Spain (free)	85.5	-0.7	-10.1	-0.2	-6.8
Portugal (free)	151.2	-0.5	-14.2	-0.2	-2.0
Italy (free)	151.2	-0.5	-14.2	-0.2	-2.0
Switzerland (free)	2860.9	-0.6	-28.9	-0.1	-23.5
Far East (free)	414.4	-0.6	-28.4	-0.2	-24.0
Australia (free)	239.8	0.3	-13.7	0.8	-6.5
UK (free)	175.6	-0.5	-18.2	0.0	-25.3
Canada (free)	151.2	-0.5	-14.2	-0.2	-2.0
Denmark (free)	247.4	-0.5	-5.2	-0.1	-14.6
Finland (free)	131.9	-0.4	-1.0	0.0	-5.3
France (free)	137.9	0.2	-7.5	0.5	-3.7
Germany (free)	871.0	-1.7	-5.1	-1.2	-5.7
Hong Kong (free)	2367.1	-1.2	-6.7	-0.8	-13.2
Italy (free)	390.9	-0.6	-29.4	-0.1	-35.6
Japan (free)	4354.4	-0.6	-29.4	-0.1	-19.6
Netherlands (free)	82.7	0.3	-8.8	0.7	-3.2
New Zealand (free)	85.4	-0.1	-17.1	-0.2	-10.0
Norway (free)	151.1				

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Curb on scope of search and seize orders

Tate Access Floors Inc and Another v Boswall and Others Before Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor [Judgment June 13]

Where there were civil proceedings involving an allegation of facts which could give rise to a criminal charge of conspiracy, a court could not make an *Anton Piller* order against a defendant compelling him to disclose documents and information, since that would infringe his privilege against self-incrimination.

Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor, so held, *inter alia*, on a motion by the defendant, Geoffrey Boswell, Graham Wall and Richard Johnson, the individual defendants, to set aside an *ex parte* order of Mr Justice Warner obtained by Tate Access Floors Inc, incorporated in Maryland, USA, and Tate Access Floors Ltd, its UK subsidiary.

A further nine defendants were not represented: Elizabeth Noriter, Jeanne Grat, Excel Tech Ltd, Show Services Ltd, South American Management Inc, Oxford Associates Ltd, Infolink Technology Ltd, Guard Trading Ltd, Beauregard Ltd and Gibson Ltd.

Mr Douglas Day, QC and Mr Terence Elberton, QC, for Mr Boswell; Mr Christopher Gibbons for Mr Wall; Mr Douglas Day, QC and Mr Michael George for Mr Johnson; Mr James Coude, QC and Mr Geoffrey Vos for Tate.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said that the first three defendants were formerly senior employees of Tate, who it was alleged, had in the course of their employment, fraudulently obtained large sums from Tate, and had agreed that the seven incorporated defendants specifically for the purpose of the fraud as false invoicing companies.

It was alleged that the individual defendants frequently authorised payments to those companies through offshore bank accounts in the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands or through accounts in London; that none of the payments was for services rendered *bona fide* by the invoicing company and the monies were almost certainly paid to or on behalf of the individual defendants.

On March 2, 1990 on an *ex parte* application by Tate, Mr Justice Warner granted *Mareva* relief [to prevent dissipation of assets] and *Anton Piller* relief.

The individual defendants now applied to set aside the whole of the *ex parte* order on three main grounds:

1 The *Mareva* part of the order was oppressive. His Lordship rejected that argument.

2 In obtaining the *ex parte* order Tate had failed to make full disclosure of all material facts so that the order as a whole should be set aside. His Lordship said:

rejected that argument and declined to set aside the order as a whole.

Nevertheless, he observed that in *Dormeuil Freres SA v Nicolian Ltd* ([1988] 1 WLR 1362, 1369) he had said 'save in exceptional circumstances it is not the correct procedure to apply to discharge an *ex parte* injunction on grounds of lack of full disclosure at the interlocutory stage of proceedings'.

His Lordship had expressed that view in the context of a growing practice of combing through large volumes of often disputed evidence with a view to showing that there had been some failure to make a material disclosure.

His Lordship remained of the view that that type of application to discharge an *ex parte* injunction on the bearing of the *inter partes* motion to continue such injunction was inappropriate. But *Bebbehani v Salm*, (1989) 2 All ER 143) reported after that decision, showed that his Lordship had expressed himself too widely.

It was clear that he had been in error in thinking that normally the question whether or not there had been a failure to disclose was not appropriate to be dealt with at the interlocutory stage.

If, as seemed probable, his decision in the instant case was believed, other than in those cases where judges would value guidance from the Court of Appeal as to the test in *Bebbehani*, he should be applying having regard to the practical problems set out in full in *Dormeuil Freres*.

3 The main reason why the defendants objected to the *ex parte* order of March 2 was that the *Anton Piller* part of the order infringed the privilege of the individual defendants against self-incrimination and should be set aside both as against the individual defendants and as against the other defendants.

There were three elements in the *Anton Piller* part of the order: first, orders that the defendants disclose and deliver up information and documents (paragraphs 15 and 16); second, that the defendants permit Tate to enter search and seize documents (paragraph 17); third, that the defendants verify on oath the information and documents produced under paragraphs 15 and 16 (paragraph 18).

The individual defendants contended that each of those aspects of the order infringed their privilege against self-incrimination. They said that, if the facts alleged by Tate were true, the individual defendants had been guilty of either a statutory or common law conspiracy to defraud and that the documents produced or obtained under such an order might tend to incriminate them on that charge.

In reliance on *Rank Film Distributors Ltd v Video Information Centre* ([1982] AC 380) they said that the privilege

extended not only to those parts of the order which required defendants to produce and verify the information and documents but also to the part which required them to permit Tate to enter, search and seize.

They further said, in reliance on *Rank Film*, that since there was a substantial risk that the effect of the order so made would have been to require such self-incrimination, the order should not have been made at all. It should now be set aside and the seized documents ordered to be returned to them.

Finally, they said that even though the company defendants had not appeared or taken any point on self-incrimination, the individual defendants were entitled to claim the privilege since Tate alleged that the company defendants were the mere creatures of the individual defendants.

The decision of the Court of Appeal in *Sociedad Nacional de Combustibles de Angelou UEE and Others v Lundqvist and Others* (*The Times* February 17) disclosed that the privilege against self-incrimination could properly be invoked in a case where, on the facts alleged by the plaintiffs, there was a reasonable apprehension that a prosecution for conspiracy might be brought in the United Kingdom and that, if the documents of information sought were to be produced, there was a real risk that they might incriminate the defendants.

In his Lordship's judgment, that claim was ill-founded.

First, unless and until they accepted that the company defendants were simply their creatures, there could be no basis to destroy the evidence for the claim.

The privilege was what it said it was: a privilege against self-incrimination. Even if it were possible to argue that a company which was the mere *alter ego* of an individual faced with the risk of prosecution should not be required to give discovery, which might aid such prosecution, the foundation of such an argument had to be that the company was in fact, the *alter ego* of the individual who was at risk.

In order for a person to show that he had any privilege at all, the burden was on him to show that he was being asked to incriminate himself; he had no privilege against self-incrimination in aid of a claim for infringement of copyright.

Even if, contrary to that view, the individual defendants were entitled to put forward the claim to privilege on the basis that the defendant companies were their creatures, they were still not entitled to object to discovery by a third party and had to prove that the company was his defendant.

The privilege could only be claimed by the person who was likely to be incriminated: see *Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation v Westinghouse Electric Corporation* ([1978] AC 478, 637).

If people chose to conduct their affairs through the medium of corporations, they were taking advantage of the fact that in law those corporations were separate legal entities whose

position had therefore been reached where the right to resist discovery on the ground of self-incrimination only applied where there was a serious risk of prosecution for conspiracy.

The individual defendants contended that in the instant case there was a real risk of the individual defendants being prosecuted for conspiracy in this country. They did not, however, contend that there was any risk that the defendant companies (all being overseas companies) would be so prosecuted.

In his Lordship's judgment, the claim that the individual defendants were in danger of prosecution for conspiracy was sought against such corporations.

Accordingly, on the *Anton Piller* order, paragraphs 15 to 18 of the order of Mr Justice Warner should be set aside against the individual defendants on the ground that there was a real risk that the execution of that part of the order would incriminate those defendants. However, those orders as against the company defendants would not be set aside since there was no risk of those company defendants being incriminated.

His Lordship reached his conclusion with regret. In the *Lundqvist* case he had pointed to the great difficulty of proof in fraud cases if the privilege against self-incrimination could be invoked to resist discovery.

He had not then foreseen the effect of that decision on *Anton Piller* orders. If he had done, he would have asked for even more urgent consideration by Parliament with a view to correcting the position.

Anton Piller orders were only made when there was a strong *prima facie* case of dishonesty committed by the defendants against the company defendants. It was almost inevitable that the judge asked to make the order would consider that there was a real risk of prosecution for a criminal offence.

If it was possible to say that the prosecution would be of a kind covered by section 31 of the Theft Act or section 72 of the Supreme Court Act it might well cause no trouble. But if as was likely too often to be the case, there was a real risk of a conspiracy charge, the judge would not be able to make an *Anton Piller* order at all and in consequence vital evidence would be destroyed.

As it seemed to his Lordship, apart from cases falling within section 72 (proceedings relating to intellectual property and passing-off) in the future it would normally only be proper for the court to make *ex parte* an *Anton Piller* order for the recovery of property belonging to the plaintiffs (without any related discovery as to documents).

To a large extent, the *Anton Piller* jurisdiction would be claimed by the person who was likely to be incriminated: see *Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation v Westinghouse Electric Corporation* ([1978] AC 478, 637).

If people chose to conduct their affairs through the medium of corporations, they were taking advantage of the fact that in law those corporations were separate legal entities whose

property and actions were in law not the property or action of their incorporators or controlling shareholders.

In his Lordship's judgment, controlling shareholders could not for all purposes beneficial to them, insist on the separate identity of such a corporation but then be heard to say the contrary when discovery was sought against such corporations.

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Court of Appeal

Three pages of VAT owing constituted one assessment

been paid or deposited with them; or (b) on being satisfied that the appellant would otherwise suffer hardship if the commissioners agree that it should be entertained notwithstanding that that amount has not been so paid or deposited."

Mr Guy Sankey for the Crown, Mr William Massey as *amicus curiae*, the taxpayers did not appear and were not represented.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the decisions in *S. J. Grange Ltd v Customs and Excise Commissioners* ([1979] STC 183) and *International Language Centres Ltd v Customs and Excise Commissioners* ([1983] STC 394) were helpful in deciding the issue.

Moreover, the judge had held that "the normal use of language required that the assessment made by the commissioners constituted a single decision from which there was a single appeal" that could not be entertained unless the amount which the commissioners had determined was not payable by their decision had been paid.

The judge had allowed the VAT tribunal (chairman, Mr Neil Elles) under section 40(3) to have their appeal against the notice determined without the making payment of the tax demanded.

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Doubts hit expedition

BRIEFING

 THE future of the first Anglo-Mongolian expedition, to study the curious long-eared hedgehog (*Erethizon auritus*) and several undescribed bee species, is now in doubt through a failure of capitalism rather than glasnost. The expedition leader, Charles Cockell, a Bristol University insect expert, says the project is still £1,500 short of the £28,200 needed to go to Mongolia, whose council for science, technology and higher education has previously refused similar requests.

Joint projects, planned by the four-man Bristol team and the Mongolian State University, will be at risk if funds are still lacking for the July 30 start. These include bringing back plants for Kew Gardens and checking on behalf of the Natural History Museum to see if Mongolia has any poisonous snakes.

Benefactors can write to the expedition at 37 High Kings Down, Bristol BS2 8EW.

Terror trauma

 A SINGLE experience of overwhelming terror can alter brain chemistry permanently, making people more sensitive to adrenaline surges decades later. The findings are the first direct evidence that the permanent stress inflicted on combat veterans and victims of crime and injury has a biological basis. Other causes include being startled by the most innocuous surprise, troubled sleep, irritability, rages, recurrent nightmares and frightening flashbacks that repeat the original horror.

Scientists say the findings, presented to the American Psychiatric Association, may allow medications to be developed to blunt the biological changes in post-traumatic stress disorder.

Spaceplane plan

THE latest design for a British spaceplane that could take off and land just like a conventional aircraft is called Cass - Orbital Air-breathing Transport System. An outline of the vehicle, with claims for cutting launch costs of satellites by 80 per cent, is

described in the summer edition of *Patents Information News*, published by the British Library. Unlike its ill-fated predecessor, the Hotol, which was smothered by a Defence Ministry classification, a copy of the patent application for the newcomer, number GB 2 222 635 A, allocated to British Aerospace, can be obtained from the libraries of the Patent Network Centres in London, Aberdeen, Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Coventry, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle upon Tyne, Plymouth, Portsmouth and Sheffield.

The Oats patent application preamble says about 200-250 tonnes of spacecraft are put into orbit every year and this figure is expected to increase to 500 tonnes by 1995 and 1,000 tonnes by 2005.

Pointers to peril

 THE glass in treasured family portraits and wedding pictures is to be used to assess the long-term health hazards of radon gas by scientists working for the United States Department of Energy, including a former researcher with Britain's National Radiological Protection Board (NRPB). Radon, a colourless, odourless but radioactive gas, which seeps into homes from decaying uranium deposits, has been linked with prostate and skin cancer and childhood leukaemia. About 75,000 homes in Britain are thought to suffer from radon accumulation. Some in the West and South-West of England exceed recognised radiation exposure safety limits by up to 100 times. The four-year, £40,000 project is funded by the American National Cancer Institute.

The scientists hope the study will help to assess links between radon and lung cancer in non-smoking women. Dr Judith Mahaffey, a researcher with the Battelle Memorial Institute, which operates the Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL) at Richland, Washington, says: "Indoor radon levels fluctuate with wind, temperature, barometric pressure, soil moisture and home improvements made to conserve energy. Such improvements can trap radon gas in the home, increasing levels by as much as four times."

PEARCE WRIGHT

The serious side of dinosaurs

Despite the popular view of the prehistoric heavies, Henry Gee wants greater emphasis to be placed on the academic approach

Dinosaurs became extinct 65 million years ago but, like Elvis Presley, the dinosaur legend lives on. A new exhibition of animated robot dinosaurs that opened last week at the Natural History Museum in London harks back to the Great Exhibition of 1851, when the life-sized dinosaur models created by the sculptor Waterhouse Hawkins loomed ominously in Crystal Palace Park.

Unlike the Crystal Palace, Mr Hawkins's monsters are still there. Although robot dinosaurs are fun, they have little more educational value than any other fun-gag attraction, according to Dr Mike Benton, of Bristol University.

He says: "They show that dinosaurs were big and moved about a bit." Models of dinosaurs abound at the exhibition, but not one real fossil or bone is to be found.

This kind of exhibition "should not become the staple fare of the museum", Dr Benton argues, noting the irony that in the year before the 150th anniversary of the invention of the term dinosaur, the museum is cutting much of its palaeontology research as a result of financial restructuring in its controversial 1990-1995 corporate plan.

He says it is preposterous that research at the museum into the entire range of extinct amphibians, birds and reptiles, including dinosaurs, will effectively have to be covered by just one person.

Dramatic exhibitions will no longer have adequate research support. Attitudes to the natural world will be coloured more by razzmatazz than by access to informed comment about real fossils, Dr Benton believes.

It would be as if all we knew about bears was Rupert and Yogi. The museum's policy, he thinks, echoes a sentiment about dinosaurs that is held more generally by the press and public — a great day out for the kids or a diverting silly-season item, but not worthy of the attention of serious-minded adults.

Dr Benton has made a close study of people's changing attitudes to dinosaurs in particular why they became extinct, which has just been published in *Evolutionary Biology*.

The dinosaurs' apparently sudden disappearance at the end of the cretaceous period has created an academic free-for-all in which astrophysicists and geochemists are having great fun with the subject to the annoyance of the real experts, the palaeontologists.

But dinosaur extinction has not always been discussed so vigorously. For more than 100 years theories from the same and sober to the wild and weird had been put forward to explain the dinosaurian demise. Present-day imaginations were fired by a paper in *Science* by Dr Luis Alvarez and his colleagues, who presented evidence that the Earth had been struck by a large meteorite at about the time the dinosaurs died out.

The Alvarez paper hardly mentions dinosaurs, but by the time the results became widely known, the link had been forged. Dinosaur death and the meteorite now go together.

Dr Benton argues that the Alvarez paper attracted attention because it was about physics, couched in terms of physical reality, rather than historical supposition. Yet palaeontologists had been discussing dinosaur extinction for years, and nobody had taken any notice.

Physicists tend to be held in higher regard than palaeontologists. They in turn regard physicists as carpet-bagging arrivistes.

Dr Benton says: "There is an implicit ranking of scientists from hard to soft." In hard sciences such as physics, chemistry, and to an increasing extent biology, ideas can be tested by repeated experiment. With historical sciences such as geology and palaeontology, Dr Benton has only happened once."

The idea that hypotheses in historical sciences are testable is a fundamental misconception both of hard scientists themselves, and the public, who view scientists as white-coated boffins, working behind convoluted arrangements of glassware in laboratories and speaking in an incomprehensible jargon.

So what have palaeontologists been doing all this time? The first dinosaur to be discovered, in 1822, was iguanodon, soon joined by others. At the time, however, people thought of them as very large lizards, bigger versions of animals alive today.

This changed in 1841 at a meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, where the term 'dinosaur' was invented by the distinguished anatomist Richard Owen, director of what would become the Natural History Museum. Until 1841, people had no concept of the dinosaur.

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Model monsters: the *Tyrannosaurus rex* (above) is 15ft high. Below: the *maiasaura* young hatch out

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Age of the rising oceans

Doubling the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could raise sea levels in northern Europe by 35 centimetres within half a century, according to a new model of ocean circulation. A study in today's issue of *Nature* by Dr Uwe Mikolajewicz and his colleagues from the Max Planck Meteorology Institute in Hamburg is the most detailed so far used to find out how the oceans would respond to greenhouse warming. The study shows how sensitive the oceans are to climate change, but the researchers say their work cannot be taken as a specific prediction.

Many climate secrets are held in the oceans. Fossil climate clues suggest it varies with dramatic suddenness, rather than smoothly and gently. Dr Wallace Broecker of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University, New York, believes these unpredictable variations are rooted in the ocean currents. Once the atmosphere warms or cools beyond a certain threshold, ocean currents shift into different patterns. The effects on surrounding continental landmasses can be dramatic.

The Max Planck researchers show that sea level would rise by 19cm on average were the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere to double, which may happen by the middle of next

century, if governments fail to negotiate a treaty to curb the emission of "greenhouse gases".

Because of changing ocean currents, the sea level in particular places could rise by much more, such as by 35cm off Europe. Levels could drop elsewhere, such as the Ross Sea off Antarctica. The changes in the Atlantic are acute because of the Gulf Stream. This drift of warm, surface water from the tropics gives the coast of northwest Europe a warmer climate than its latitude should allow, explaining why palm trees can grow in Atlantic Ayrshire but not Pacific Alaska or Kamchatka, although all three areas are on the same line of latitude. About 125,000 years ago, a strong Gulf Stream bathed Britain in water so

warm that hippopotamuses walked as far north as Teesdale.

Only a few thousand years later, polar water pushed the weakening current south, turning Britain into treeless tundra. Because of the Gulf Stream, the surface water in the North Atlantic today is warmer than that of the North Pacific. Warmer water evaporates more readily, making the residue saltier and heavier and warming the deep ocean. The North Pacific is more dilute. The imbalance sets up a deep current of salty water with a volume 20 times that of the world's rivers combined, which flows from the Atlantic to the Pacific, via the Cape and the Indian Ocean. To compensate, a current near the surface flows back in the opposite direction, rejoining

the Gulf Stream. This cycle reinforces itself: extra salt in the North Atlantic drives the deep salt current, which is in turn driven by the evaporation of surface water moving north to replace it.

But the cycle can be knocked out of kilter by climate change. Most of the sea-level rise projected by the Max Planck team can be attributed to thermal expansion. Warmer water is less dense, and so takes up more space. Climate-induced change in the overall heat balance of the oceans: the differences between surface temperature between the Atlantic and Pacific, for example, will weaken the deep current. Increased melting of Arctic ice will dump a load of fresh, cold water into the North Atlantic. This "pours" cold water on the deep current by making surface waters too dilute to sink. Warm water that would normally sink to the bottom to fuel the deep current will hang about in the North Atlantic, leading to a rise in sea levels above the global average.

The weakening of the deep current leads to what might be the ultimate climatic irony: as salty water sinks, it takes with it a significant fraction of the atmosphere's carbon dioxide. Without the deep salt current, this carbon dioxide will stay in the air to reinforce global warming.

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Increasing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could have drastic effects on sea levels. Henry Gee reports on a new study



Waves lash a Brighton pier during storms last year



Sir Arthur Keith (above), an anatomist at the Hunterian Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, who died in 1955, was the key figure behind the "Piltdown Man" fraud, aided by Charles Dawson, a Sussex lawyer and amateur geologist, according to *Piltdown: A Scientific Forgery*, to be published this autumn by OUP and written by Dr Frank Spencer, an anthropology professor at Queens College of the City University of New York. The skull and jaw of the "Piltdown Man", apparently found in

a gravel pit in England and announced to the world in 1912, were a sensation because they upset prevailing theories about the age of modern man. The specimen confounded scientific enquiry for years, throwing many palaeontologists off the scent of what is now seen as the true course of human evolution. The fraud was not exposed until 1953, as bones which were reassembled to appear to be what they were not. A human cranium a few hundred years old had been joined to an orangutan's jaw.

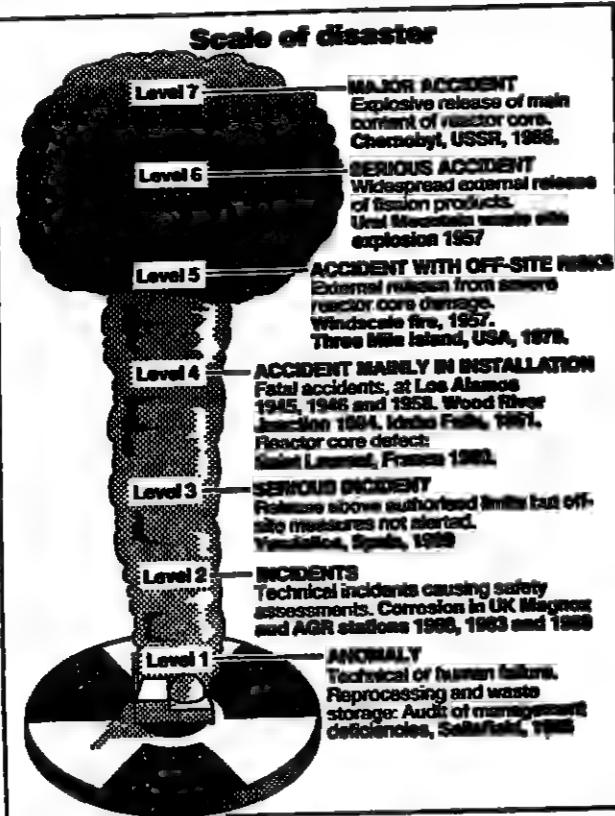
Classifying a disaster

THE FIRST attempt to classify nuclear accidents by the severity of the incident has been made by the International Atomic Energy Agency, based in Vienna (see Wright report).

Development of an international nuclear event scale, which is being applied for a trial period of a year, consists of seven levels divided into two groups. The groups separate accidents into levels 4 to 7 and incidents into levels 1 to 3.

According to the agency, about ten times fewer events would be classified at each successively higher level of the scale. Accidents are ranked by three criteria: off-site impact, on-site impact and "defense in depth degradation".

The third category refers to the safety systems built into nuclear plant and how close they came to being breached. A "Chernobyl" explosion would rank as level 7.



Putting self-development on IT agenda

JOBSCENE The non-technical skills of computer experts need to be improved to become a hybrid manager

In the past, it was enough to be a skilled technician. Recently, however, IT staff have been warned that they should put much more emphasis on developing business skills and social skills.

The authors of the guide, Michael Earl and David Skyrme, of Templeton College, say information technology staff should therefore "put self-development on their personal agenda" if they want to become the much vaunted hybrid manager of the Nineties. "Hybrid Manager: What Should You Do?", published this month by the British Computer Society (BCS).

Organisations are seeking to bridge the gap between business management and those who are still seen as computer boffins by improving the non-technical skills of IT staff.

Hence the invention of the hybrid manager, or person who combines business understanding, technical competence, organisational knowledge and skills.

They recommend that such staff should devote ten per cent of their time to self-development, such as courses to improve business communication skills.

A BCS task force last year said Britain should be producing at least 10,000 hybrid managers by 1995. Colin Palmer, chairman of the task force, says: "Hybrids seem to

bring their characteristics to bear in turning opportunities for improved business performance with the use of IT into reality, and in helping to avoid expensive failure by their persistence, commercial sense and understanding of people and technology is key."

The authors of the guide, Michael Earl and David Skyrme, of Templeton College, say information technology staff should therefore "put self-development on their personal agenda" if they want to become the much vaunted hybrid manager of the Nineties. "Hybrid Manager: What Should You Do?", published this month by the British Computer Society (BCS).

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A BCS task force last year said Britain should be producing at least 10,000 hybrid managers by 1995. Colin Palmer, chairman of the task force, says: "Hybrids seem to

technology do not have them. Nor are salary increases automatic."

Although the number of IT directors is growing, many serve on the second tier management structure, generally known as executive committees in the UK.

There are about 2,000 IT directors in Britain, according to Price Waterhouse. A survey last year showed that 41 per cent of companies employing more than 500 staff had an IT director, and most other companies were considering appointing one within the next three years.

Most of the directors surveyed by Price Waterhouse come from an IT background, but just over a quarter do not. The majority defined their most important role as integrating IT with corporate objectives and their main problem as the "culture gap" between computer experts and mainstream business staff.

LESLIE TILLEY

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Continued From Previous Page

BOLIVIA

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Job in 150

Computer wheels turn slowly in boardrooms

If you ask the man from Price Waterhouse what he thinks about information technology (IT) he will tell you: "Yesterday it was about managing experts. Today it is the very stuff of management. Tomorrow little else may need to be managed."

Yet few have put the words of Kit Grindley, editor of Price Waterhouse's *IT Review* into practice. Most IT managers still live in a 1970s time warp. Few seem to have formulated any kind of personal computer (PC) strategy at a time when PCs have become more powerful than 1970s mainframes. Networking is for many still a distant dream.

Computer fraud has also increased sharply in the past five years. Yet many companies do not realise how important it is to make their strategic data secure. Because more information is now being held on computer, its availability and use at all levels within a company has become widespread.

Protecting against the corporate killer is a daunting and unrewarding business with solutions that are largely procedural. On the one hand, management information needs to be confidential and kept secure. On the other, it is important that security measures are not so complicated that they inhibit authorised staff from getting into the computer. It is not all gloom. For the first time, the IT

Many information technology managers have insecure strategic data, suffer computer fraud and believe networking is a dream.

They should now leave the 1970s time warp

Review includes a special board supplement based on the responses of a new panel made up of IT directors.

At last, chief executives from 68 per cent of companies with 500 or more employees intend to appoint an IT director in the next three years.

Forty-one per cent have already done so. Of these, 63 per cent see their main role as integrating IT with the objectives of the business.

There are also some big changes in the way IT departments spend money. The average IT budget in the UK last year, taken across a sample of all companies with a data-processing department of five staff or more, was £2.73 million. This compares with 1988's figure of £2.76 million – a fall of 1.3 per cent. Adjusted for inflation, it represents a 5.9 per cent drop.

Three reasons have been given for such reduced spending. First, top management continues to challenge IT budgets and is no longer daunted by technical arguments. Second, the price of money is high and it is becoming increasingly difficult to justify investment. Of course, the price of computers has been falling for years.

However, while management continues to upgrade its old, expensive computers, it misses many cost-reduction opportunities.

The only way to take advantage of new, lower-priced machines is to throw the old ones away, which means rewriting the software programs. But many management are finding the courage to make a start to replace their mainframe computers with smaller machines.

This is where the power of the individual user comes in. Overall spending may be down but it is mostly in the centralised data-processing (DP) department. On the whole, user spending continues to grow, and this year has added £50,000, or 8.6 per cent to the average "decentralised" computer budget. Coming from virtually nowhere 10 years ago (then dubbed the "illegal spend"), it was

consuming a fifth of a company's annual computer investment by 1988. This year, users are forecast to account for a quarter of all IT expenditure.

Last year, for the first time, the most frequently mentioned problem among IT managers was that of integrating IT with corporate objectives. Although a lot more people seem concerned about it, there is much talk and no action.

A recent survey of 100 leading companies carried out for Datasolve shows that British industry is still failing to get a significant competitive edge from its information technology despite 10 years of huge investment and the dramatic spread of processing power through the desktop PC.

Much IT investment continues to be justified by DP departments on the grounds of potential "strategic" benefit to their organisations. In reality, almost all of it is merely to enhance existing administrative systems.

Most IT investment is still not formally evaluated in terms of its return or benefits. Consequently, millions of pounds of IT investment is being wasted because senior management is not taking control of IT investment decision-making, or involving its DP professionals in long-term business planning.

According to the Datasolve report, DP departments are not



able to meet the real needs of their organisations because most of them are still being excluded from management thinking.

Seventy-five per cent want access to the boardroom yet, as a kind of knee-jerk reaction, most are unwilling to let their management use the sort of technology that will give the former a power hitherto controlled exclusively from the computer room. There is

an underlying fear among DP directors that mainstream management will simply take them over, so that they are finally left neutered and find themselves just "minding the boxes".

It is a fear echoed in Price Waterhouse's *IT Review*, where more than a quarter of IT directors surveyed had no background in IT, pointing to the emergence of a new, business-oriented IT direc-

tor. Nearly half of these same IT directors say they view the "culture gap" between IT and the rest of the business as a major problem.

Each side has to be educated. According to the *Review*, "The new culture will arrive when the users accept competition is only about information and the technicians accept that information is all about competition."

and Industry (DoT). The campaign aims to increase the appreciation among small- and medium-sized businesses of the value of data held on their computer systems and to suggest practical ways that companies can protect their information from loss, damage or unauthorised use.

The campaign is being managed by the National Computing Centre, Oxford Road, Manchester M1 7ED (061 228 6333).

• Hoskyns has just launched a 60-page handbook dealing with microcomputer security. The book reinforces the importance of computer security to all staff at all times and deals with a wide range of issues, such as physical security, disk management and software security. It is written by Chris Pounder and costs £7.50 from Hoskyns, 130 Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1V 7DN (071-434 2171).

White-collar fraud is like a thief in the night

An estimated £5.5 billion was lost through lack of security in IT systems in Europe in 1987

sequences. Serious damage is more often the result of industrial action, which accounts for 13 per cent of all security problems.

Interconnectivity – which includes Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) and Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) procedures – increases the risk of a security breach. However, this is hardly surprising when there are no traditional accounting safeguards.

It is only when security routines are introduced that a breach in security is discovered.

Diana Billingham, the manager of Hoskyns Security Division, says "computer security needs a systematic and structured approach, with the full commitment of senior executives".

The *IT Review* does instil some hope, however. Whereas five years ago, 26 per cent of the *IT Review* panel spent nothing on security measures, only 4 per cent are now in this position. Security routines account for about 4 per cent of applications development cost.

Nearly 40 per cent of the security budget is spent on people and policies, including procedures and security staff. Low staff awareness was quoted as a problem for 33 per cent of respondents.

According to the 65-member European Security Forum, a European initiative launched last year

by Coopers & Lybrand Europe, companies are at various stages of awareness about IT security.

Most companies fall into one of four categories, ranging from "Asleep" (up to 90 per cent), where there is a poor appreciation of risks and security has been relegated to a background issue, to "Wide-Awake" (1 per cent), where any breach of security is followed up rigorously.

According to William List, a partner in charge of IT Security at KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock, there are five key factors that companies should consider when reviewing and tightening their computer system security.

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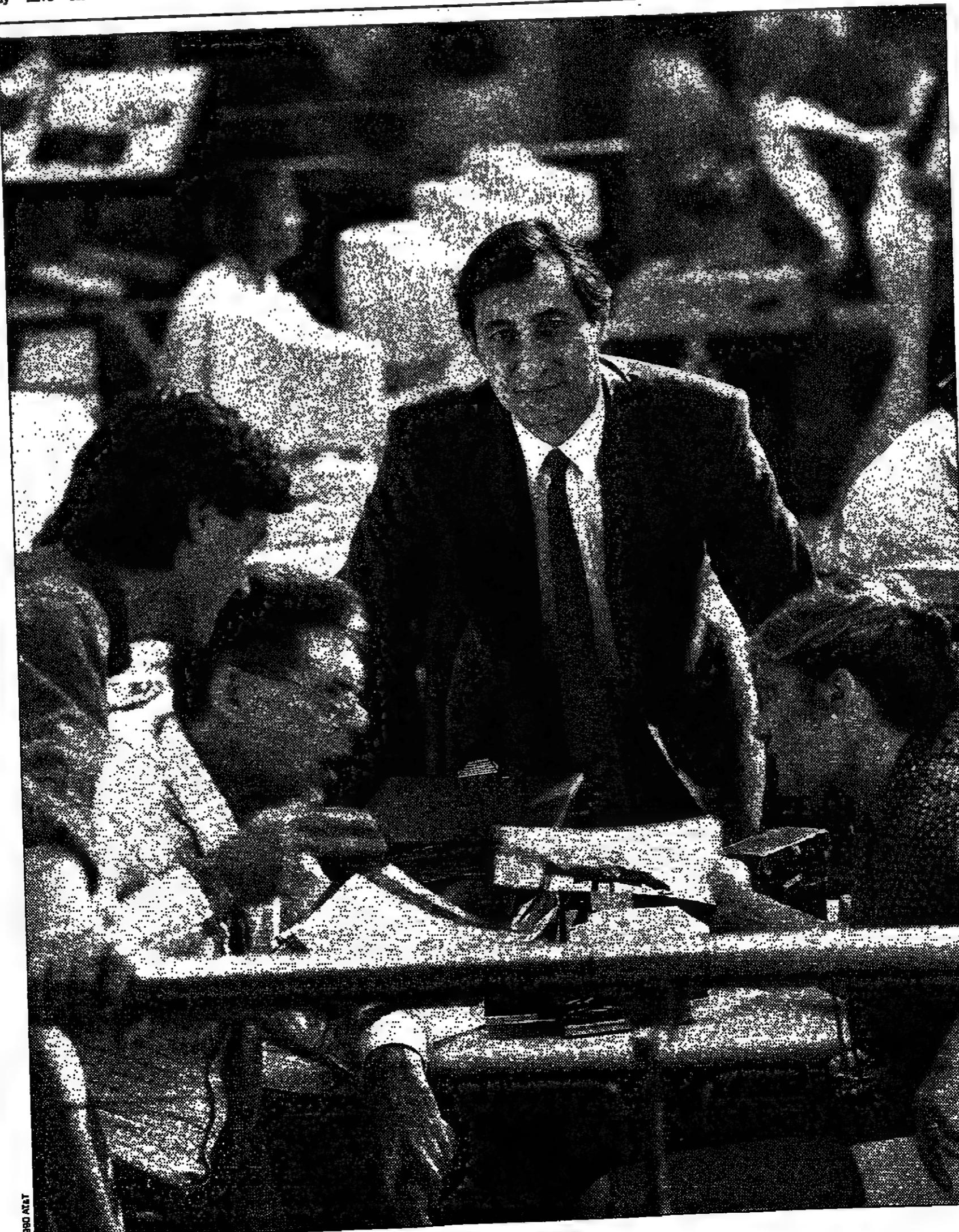
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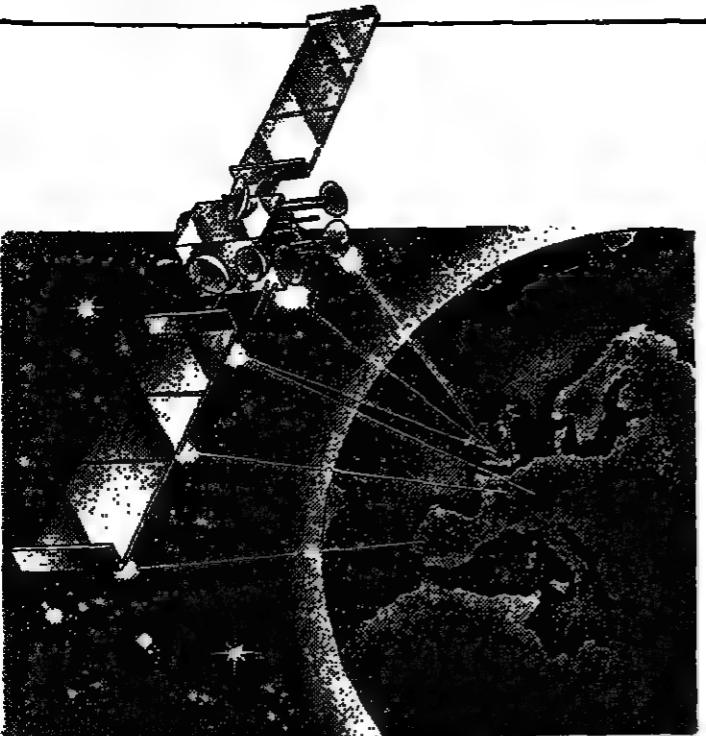


Despite 10 years of technical standards, most British firms are not yet aware of the benefits that open systems can bring to business

Opening the way to communication

An independent survey recently carried out for the Department of Trade and Industry (DoT) by the Policy Studies Institute shows that managing directors and even their information technology (IT) directors are unaware of the implications and benefits that open-system

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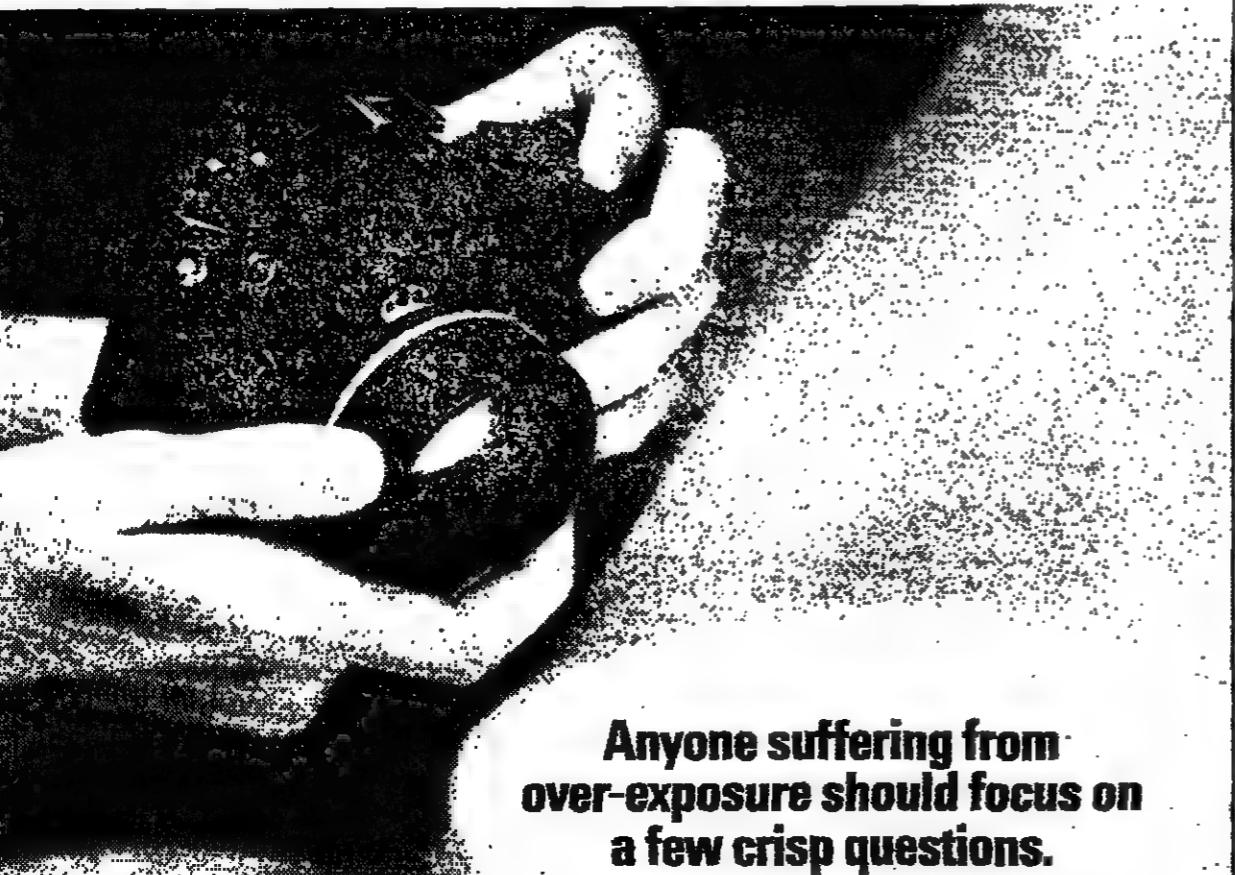
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applications and networks has been ratified and implemented across the world in products and equipment. A number of large organisations, including the UK, US, Japanese and European governments, have selected subsets of the OSI base standards and request conformance to these in all competitive tenders.

Now when suppliers talk about an "open systems" policy, they mean the adoption of the Unix operating system and OSI communications standards. During the past 12 months, communications and operating systems standards have started to overlap.

Unix standards have hitherto been set by commerce, starting with AT&T and now with X/Open, the Open Software Foundation (OSF) and Unix International. These bodies have widened their briefs to speed up progress in the OSI arena under whose influence their products fall.

However, the computing world has not changed from proprietary systems to one dominated by standards. Suppliers want to exploit their differences and hold on tight to their customers. Some pay lip service to conformity and produce a "unique" version of a proposed standard. According to the Price

Waterhouse IT Review, more than half the respondents have no faith that standard operating systems will allow information exchange between different types of computers within 15 years.

Only communications standards inspire any optimism. Most installations expect standard interfaces will make the dream jargon "universal connectivity" a reality by the year 2000. A quarter put it at five years or less. When it comes to being under pressure to conform (the only time they will make the effort to standardise), communications are singled out as the only area where competition, or survival, forces compliance.

"We know the cynicism," Geoff Morris, the head of X/Open, says. "You either plan for open systems or, if you believe it will not happen fast enough, you plan to manage without them."

What seems to be missing, however, is proof that standards-based systems can bring short-term benefits and that agreement can be made to happen. Yet according to Mr Morris, the evidence is not missing, just the appreciation.

• A newsletter, "Open Systems Informer", £2.95, is available from the Marketing Force, Wickham House, Upper Teddington, Middx, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 4DX (081-977 8760). A DoT introduction to OSI is available from DoT, Room 723, 1-19 Victoria Street, London SW1H OET (071-215 5000).

The industry blueprint

An international forum is formulating some guidelines for network managers

Management Forum (NMF). Just two years old, the NMF is a 90-member strong consortium of network equipment suppliers, service providers and users who want to establish a single, industry-wide blueprint of rules for network management and bring products to the market that conform to Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) standards, where one computer can communicate with any other, regardless of make.

Ironically, growth has also created disparate elements within the corporate network, where a typical site is made up of products from at least 20 different suppliers and where the cost of operating the network works out to be more than double the cost of building it (over five years).

Consequently, it is difficult to guarantee that the whole network structure is financially accountable, secure and performing efficiently because managers have no standards to go by.

Enter the OSI/Network

Amdahl, BT, STC, GEC, NTT, NCR and Bull. So far, five documents have been produced, completing the first phase of the forum's work. Products that conform to these specifications have started to appear on the market.

However, rather than reinvent the wheel, the forum's emphasis is on interpreting OSI standards and improving on them. Where standards do not exist, the forum will fill in any technical gaps, but newly elected forum president, Keith Willets, says that NMF specifications that differ from the final international standard will be revised and

forum's work is not just pie in the sky but the delivery of products that work.

Mr Willets is aware that some standards bodies have become isolated, creating technical specifications that bear no relation to the real world. To avoid that, he has asked large users to contribute to the forum's preparatory machinations over working lunches held three times a year.

Limited to 20 people a session, 60 have so far taken advantage of the president's round-table discussion when the forum meets to review its overall plan, to assess the progress made so far and gather suggestions about its future work.

He realises that to be successful the forum will need to make more people aware of the benefits of the technology, and that means education. The second prong is to deliver the products that demonstrate those benefits.

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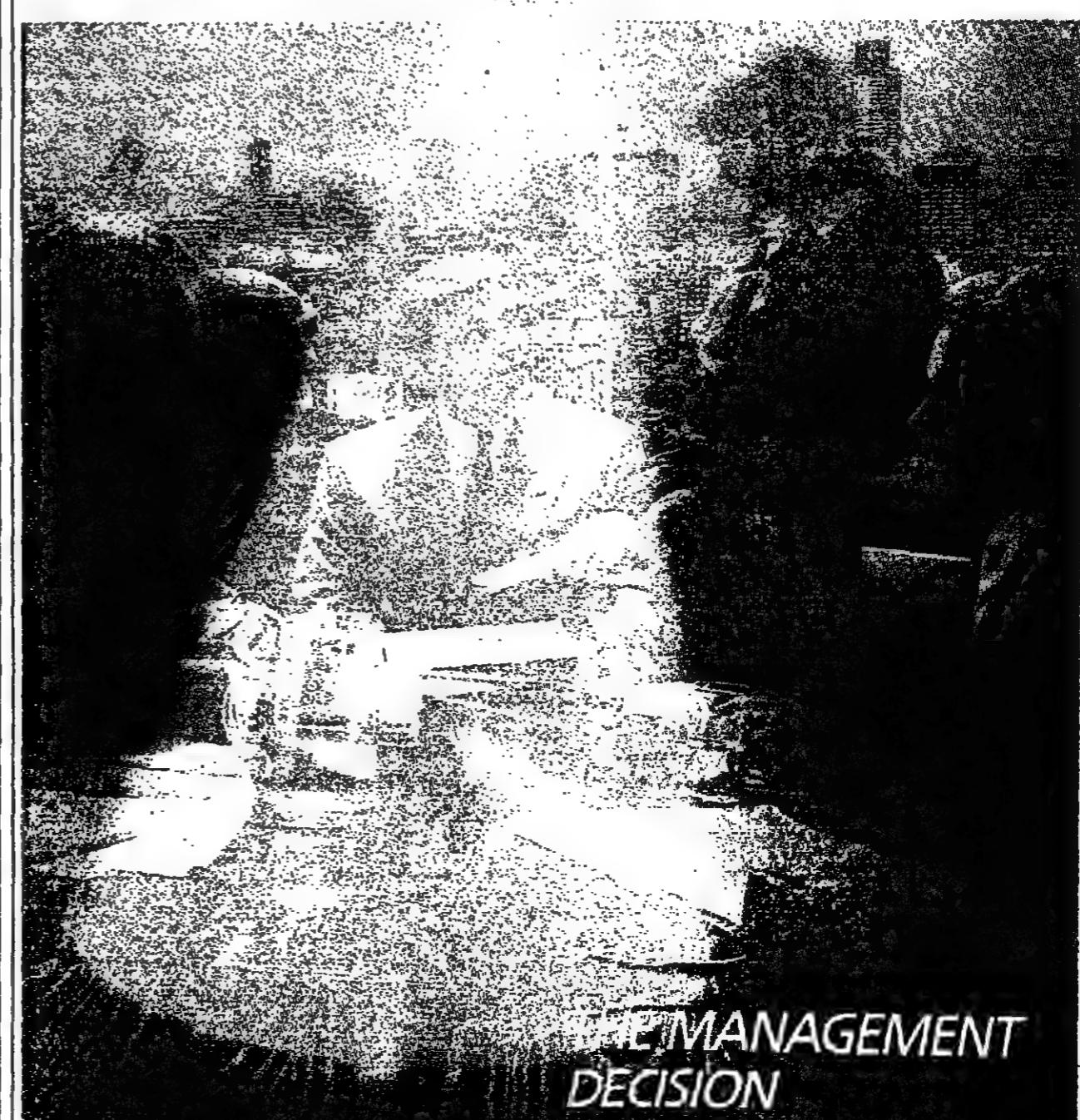
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Companies must create a climate where managers are committed to making IT work

Planning for success

The science of predicting information technology (IT) trends was once a simple one. Changes in technology are easy to see. But the current changes occurring in management and organisation of IT are more difficult to appreciate. The secret of success lies in the quality of the planning process.

The trend towards end-user computing, where machines sit in the department they are serving rather than in a centralised computer room, has changed the management and provision of computing facilities. The trend is also changing the responsibilities placed on, and the skills required of, management users and computer staff.

It is now difficult to attract and keep skilled IT staff, cope with change, deliver the right services on time and at the right price and measure the benefits of IT. One reason why there are such difficulties is that there has not always been a proper recognition that IT changes often imply organisational changes.

Managers are often overwhelmed by the politics of organisational change because the process is not led and managed from the top. To carry out the process effectively, managers must map out objectives and priorities and give IT issues the same attention they would give to capital investment plans, human resource planning and decentralisation.

The IT strategy is a four-stage process of defining objectives, setting an IT briefing for management, defining information strategy and, finally, the IT strategy. Once senior management has identified and accepted the need for a strategy, it is in a position to set out the

terms of reference for a review which must culminate in a defined IT statement.

The first step is to appraise what the company has in terms of information systems and make an inventory of what computers are being used for and what and where they are. It should be noted, for example, which systems are difficult to use and which deliver what services and carry out which functions.

It is also important to measure demand for memory, disk/tape storage and machine processing power, the size of the computer and communication network and then analyse how IT is being delivered.

At this point it is useful to consider four points:

- the proportion of resources tied up in maintenance;
- the extent to which the current approach towards planning new systems is technology-driven rather than information-need-driven;
- the varied roles of user and department;
- the use of modern system-development techniques.

The review process may show the company to be well placed to cope with further change. It may equally conclude that it has not positioned itself to take full advantage of IT and that a fundamental reappraisal of management attitudes, communication processes and organisational procedures is necessary.

The objective is always to help prepare the ground for the changed management process that will be necessary to get from the current state of affairs to a desired end point. Once a company has decided

where it is and what its problems are, it then has to decide where it would like to be.

The direction it takes will be determined by the aims and objectives of the organisation, the information needs, the opportunities being provided by developments in the telecommunications world, factors by which you measure the success of the change you have planned and the resources and skills needed to facilitate that change in terms of finance and people.

Senior managers must recognise that a key management challenge confronts them: IT is in demand but delivery always seems to be too little and too late. There is often conflict between unhappy and vociferous users who would like to do their own thing and IT staff who issue dire warnings of anarchy and chaos.

Systems are continually accused of failure to deliver the goods. The problems of attracting and retaining experienced IT staff are driving companies to offer fringe benefits that only seem to increase their costs without resolving the problems.

New product policies by the computer supplier can create expensive upheavals with seemingly little immediate and perceptible benefit.

To create a climate in which these problems are fully understood and management processes are evolved to address them, it is important to recognise the need to manage key success factors. It is just as important to create a climate where managers are committed to making IT happen as it is to engage in the more glamorous activity of strategy formulation.

BRITAIN needs to produce 10,000 hybrid information technology (IT) and business managers in the next five years, according to recommendations published by the British Computer Society (BCS). Managing information is now a critical part of business survival. Hybrid managers combine business expertise with a knowledge of IT and its applications.

Managers with information management expertise as well as other business skills are now in demand. Information systems managers must also possess the relevant business knowledge and skills.

Hybrid management skills were rated as "very important" by 90 per cent of respondents to a BCS poll of its membership earlier this year.

The poll covered a 20 per cent sample of the BCS membership and produced 700 replies. It showed that 42 per cent of the respondents were willing to devote one night a week of their own time to developing their skills as hybrid managers. Another 17 per cent said they would willingly devote a day a week and another 30 per cent a day a month to development along these lines. One in three employers were also prepared to give time off.

The BCS task group steering the crash MBA programme which will create the hybrids also surveyed a select group of top managers from some of the UK's biggest companies. These managers were taking

Emergence of the hybrid manager

Disaster recovery is vital, yet many firms have no plan for when the system fails

encourage development of hybrid managers.

The term "hybrid" was coined by Michael Earl, the director of the Oxford Institute of Information Management (Templeton College), and has become a contemporary description for managers who blend information management and business skills.

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IT world, detailed technical knowledge and skills can quickly become obsolete.

Hybrid managers need to know where to get up-to-date technical and professional expertise. And not just in their own companies. They must know how to tap external sources as well as such as system houses and consultants.

Almost by definition, the second explicit strand of hybrid competence is that of business knowledge. Much general business knowledge can come from post-graduate, or general management courses, especially Open Business School courses or an MBA.

More importantly, however, are the skills that come from learning to apply this knowledge in relevant business situations. This means having an active involvement with project teams, acting as a staff adviser to line managers, or being seconded to business units for specific tasks, typically for periods of up to two years or more.

The most successful hybrid managers are likely to know their own organisation very well. They will not just be street-wise, but know how to get things done and be able to communicate their thoughts clearly.

It certainly looks like managers who know what information is needed, how to get that information and how to develop the necessary information systems will have a significant impact on the UK's competitive position over the next 10 years.



Cited phrase: Michael Earl

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A better town for everybody

Investment is about to transform Ipswich. John Shaw sees the start of the town centre revival

Ipswich received a commercial vote of confidence last week as work started on the huge Buttermarket development. The four-acre site has been a black hole in the town centre for months, but a decision to go ahead by Legal & General Property, its backers, shows support for a prime shopping scheme at a gloomy time for high-street multiples.

Richard Jessop, Legal & General Property's development director, says: "The start of this ambitious scheme is exciting for us and for the people of Ipswich, who have waited such a long time for first-class retail facilities."

Owen Owen, the department store group, has taken the 120,000 sq ft main site in a 270,000 sq ft complex, which could be open in mid 1992. The plan includes 34 smaller shops and a car park with 400 spaces. The architects are the Building Design Partnership, responsible for award-winning shopping developments in Carlisle and Durham, and the agents are Hillier Parker and Woodward and Partners, of Ipswich. Buttermarket is one of three schemes that Ipswich has planned in its attempt to rival Norwich and Cambridge as a shopping centre.

Another planned shopping project is at Cox's Lane. Bidwells and Edward Erdman are already letting properties in the refurbished Eastgate Centre on the main pedestrianised shopping street known locally as The Golden Mile.

The town, which has a 120,000 population, serves a growing area of 270,000 people. Jamie Cann, deputy head of a primary school and leader of the Labour-controlled council, says: "We are a forward-looking authority, and our programme is to improve the town's facilities for everybody."

Council officials have been active behind the scenes. They want a vibrant town centre and see the project as part of much wider growth spreading down to the 22 acres of water in the 75-acre Wet Dock, an area of opportunity similar to that in Bristol or Liverpool's Albert Dock.

James Hehir, Ipswich's 41-year-old chief executive, says: "We do not bow down to anything that



New image: "In everything there is a determination to improve the town," James Hehir says

comes along. The principle behind everything we do is a determination to improve the town. A lot of places say that, but here you can see it in operation."

Mr Hehir had just left a news conference explaining town improvements in action. An executive buyout was announced at Brent Walker's Tolly Cobbold Brewery, which has been part of Ipswich life since 1723.

The leisure giant had earlier taken over the company, dismissed the workers and moved production to Hartlepool. The news was met with outrage locally and a management effigy was hung from a pole outside the gates.

Mr Hehir admits he was stunned. But officials acted quickly. That afternoon they toured the site and next morning the brewery was a listed building. The preservation order covered not only the structure, but also the fixtures and fittings, some so valuable they were wanted by the British Museum. Within days George Walker flew into Ipswich. Mr Hehir pointed out what the town had to offer. At the end of the day Mr Walker shook hands with Mr Cann and said he would stand by Ipswich.

Ten months later, the authority has allowed a small office development on the site, brewing has returned to the town with a deal to sell the beer in Brent Walker's pub, and the building itself is to become "a working museum".

Leisure developments are a big part of council strategy. Ipswich has four big sports centres and a fifth is planned. A swimming pool complex in the town centre is used by up to 800,000 people a year and the Wolsey Theatre is thriving. The next phase is to turn the Odeon Cinema and its adjoining car park into a concert venue.

The cinema is owned by Rank, the car park by NCP. Mr Hehir

and his men struck a deal with Rank last November. The council is building a £3.75 million, five-screen cinema complex seating 1,500, which should be completed by Christmas. Rank will then manage it and pass ownership of the art deco Odeon to the council.

The authority then swapped one of its car parks with NCP and the second stage of the deal is now emerging. The site is between the two cinemas. The council will soon advertise nationally for a partner to put up between 20,000 and 30,000 sq ft of offices.

Mr Hehir says: "The new partner's contribution, rather than us receiving money for it, will be to refurbish the Odeon. Ideally, we want a new theatre with 2,200 seats to take all the national shows and the ground floor to contain an arts-related facility so that the whole thing will be a positive benefit to the town."

The authority, before it swapped car parks, said it wanted NCP to redevelop the new site for shopping. "Now," Mr Hehir says, "they are putting together a redevelopment package that we could never have devised."

This kind of property juggling shows a commercial astuteness quite foreign to many local authorities. Mr Hehir says: "If a scheme is totally unacceptable, we tell developers the minute we see them and always make a point of saying why. We do not run through the whole cycle, then say no. They either take our advice or run the risk of getting a rejection and taking the matter to appeal. We tell them what they need to do to any scheme of real size."

That is not the approach of most local authorities. They listen, receive, spend £20,000 to £30,000 on a model, then another £50,000 on a feasibility study. Six months

later, when it is rejected, everybody feels disappointed. Some developers do not like our approach and go away. But we like to feel they go with a positive feeling about Ipswich."

These developments are on existing sites because the authority does not want to trespass on green-field land. "The critical thing is to strike the right balance between commerce and conservation in a town like this, and nowadays you have to keep running just to stand still," Mr Hehir says.

The town is well endowed with parkland and an area of outstanding natural beauty is just by the graceful Orwell Bridge. The council has acquired another 70 or 80 acres of woodland further down the river, which will be turned into a country park.

Away from the town centre, Ransome's one of Ipswich's blue-chip industrial names and a leader in grass-cutting machinery, has



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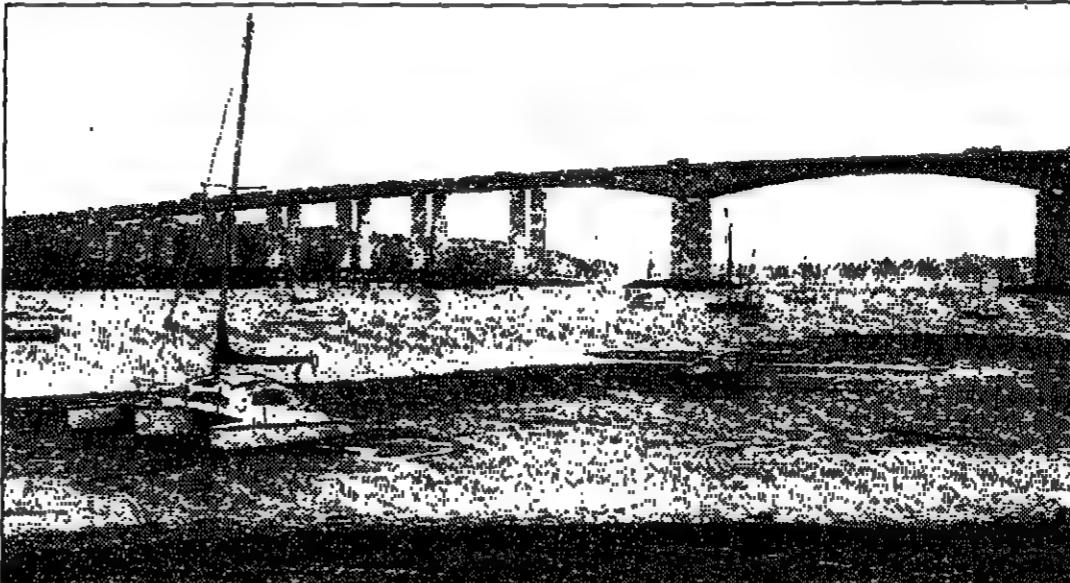
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just launched a £250 million business park alongside the A45 east-west artery between the Midlands and east-coast ports.

Eight miles away at Felixstowe, groundwork is already being done in case the dock needs further expansion. Bidwells, its agent, says several office developments are going on at the 250-acre Trinity Industrial Estate.

The strategic switch of port trade from the west to the east coast has favoured the Haven Ports. For the first time, Ipswich handled more than five million tonnes in cargo last year and is now Britain's fourth largest container port.

An international arts library called EVAC, computer-linked to other libraries and museums throughout Europe, will eventually open in the town. "Ipswich is not just a corner of Suffolk. It is part of a growing Europe," Mr Hehir says.



River crossing: the Orwell Bridge is expected by the traffic experts to reach capacity in 16 years

The three routes to controversy

The question of a new port access road in Ipswich has caused environmental controversy on both sides of the River Orwell (Anne Gould writes). Arguments on one side are about conservation and on the other air pollution, but there is one unanticipated issue — that Ipswich needs a new port access road.

The port area has been selected for possible commercial, leisure and industrial development, and if this goes ahead it seems unlikely that the existing roads will cope.

East Anglia is a growth region and traffic experts at Suffolk County Council and Ipswich Borough Council estimate that the Orwell Bridge carrying the A45 will reach capacity by the year 2006. Some forecasters think the increasing traffic will necessitate a northern bypass — a suggestion guaranteed to anger farmers and people on the outskirts of town.

Partly for these reasons the county council has commissioned a £250,000 traffic survey. The results will not be available until at least the end of the year, so a decision on which of three options to accept has been put back.

However, residents now have the chance to gather more ammunition to protect their interests.

By coincidence, the leaders of the two campaigns share a surname but the similarity ends there. Henry Cooper, of the Wherstead Road Residents' Association, says: "We are fighting Goliath all the time." His campaign opposes the most expensive of the options, the West Bank route, which by 1987 prices would

cost £6.4 million. This route involves building a fixed span and swing bridge to cross an island at the centre of the docks. After Griffin Wharf it would cut through a former factory site and link with the West Bank relief road giving access to Wherstead Road.

In Wherstead Road, which already takes heavy port traffic seeking easy access to the A45, residents protest that the route would make conditions even worse. Mr Cooper says: "The traffic is already so heavy that it has caused cracks in our homes. So what is it doing to the drains? It is noisy and dirty and makes crossing the road very difficult. We cannot open the windows because of the dust."

Mr Cooper says residents' surveys have proved traffic is increasing. "Last year in March we counted 13,000 vehicles in a 12-hour period," he says. "In August a count showed 14,000 cars and lorries." The association aims to carry out atmospheric tests to establish whether the traffic could damage health.

On the opposite side of the river there are two options cutting through Pipers Vale and Braziers Wood. Mick Cooper says: "Pipers Vale should be retained for public amenity. It should not be destroyed for the sake of a road."

He says it is a haven for plants and wildlife and the campaign to protect it has the support of 2,500 residents and environmentalists throughout Suffolk.

The East Bank routes start along Cliff Quay. One follows the shore line and the other crosses the back of the Gainsborough council housing estate and runs alongside some allotments. At 1987 prices the first would cost £3.9 million and the second £3.7 million. Both would join the A45 at the Felixstowe end of the Orwell Bridge. However, traffic bound for London or the Midlands would then have to cross the river, inevitably increasing forward bridge congestion.

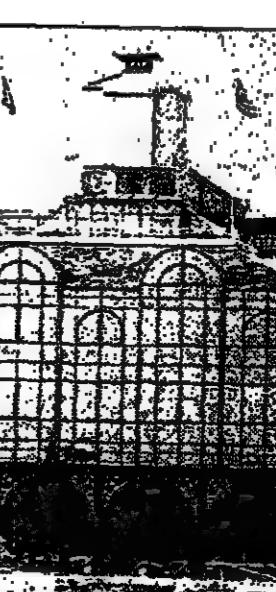
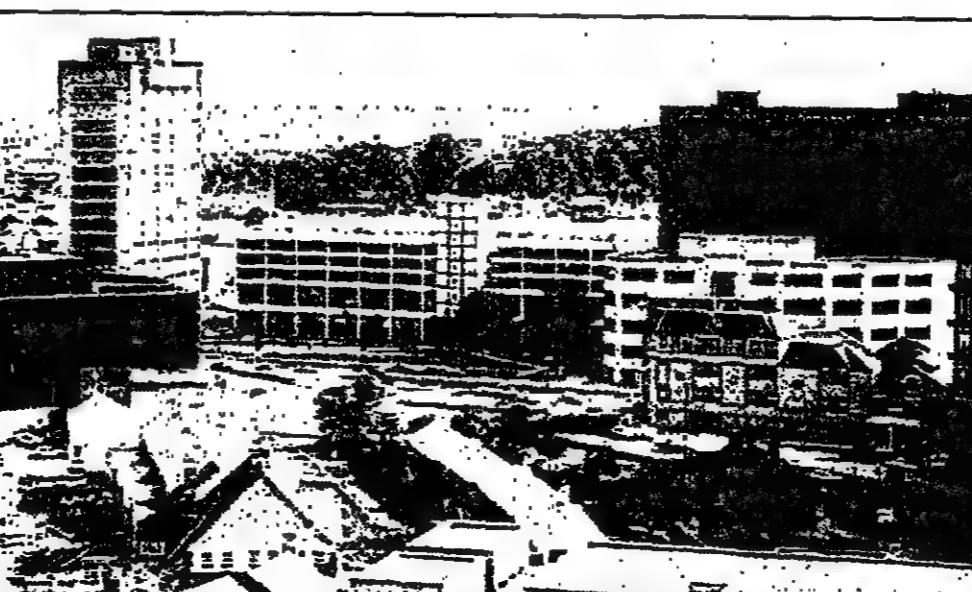
Mr Cooper is so dedicated to the Pipers Vale campaign that he no longer works and has become a house-husband for his wife and family. "To me Pipers Vale is the Gainsborough estate," he says. "We have always been lucky enough to live beside Suffolk countryside and we do not want to lose it."

He has sought support from the Prince of Wales, the naturalist David Bellamy and the readers of environment magazines.

IPSWICH



The Orwell Bridge



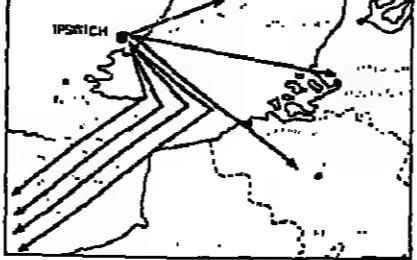
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A new European Visual Arts Centre is planned. A large Entertainments Complex is already under construction including a five-screen cinema and a

2,000 seat theatre capable of hosting major national and international touring companies.

The Minister for the Arts, the Rt. Hon. Richard Luce, on his latest visit to IPSWICH praised the town's ambitious leisure schemes saying "Ipswich could not be better placed in geographical terms to participate in 1992 and beyond and I think there has been the most exciting sense of vision by people in the town."



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SUFFOLK HAS 500 medieval churches and all are worth a visit, from the 12 in Ipswich to the one up the coast at Blythburgh in a superb setting by the estuary overlooking the North Sea (John Shaw writes).

Churches, the legacy of the county's wealthy 13th-century wool merchants, give its villages much of their timeless half-timbered attraction. The churchyards are havens of tranquillity and

frequently teem with wildlife. These attractions all suggest there is never enough time to spend in east Suffolk. The county attracts the discerning visitor who visits historic houses, goes sailing or walks parts of the wind-swept 50-mile coastal path from Felix-

stowe to Lowestoft. In 1988 Suffolk had 1.4 million domestic tourists, who spent £78 million. It also draws an increasing number of overseas visitors, mainly from the Continent, who spent £28 million. But tourism officials are expecting an invasion of Ameri-

cans in 1992. They will be marking the 50th anniversary of the 8th and 9th US Air Force's arrival in East Anglia.

Nearly half a million airmen and support staff were based in the region by 1945, a friendly invasion unparalleled in British history.

There will be thanksgiving and memorial services, stained-glass windows will be unveiled, air displays will be mounted and Glenn Miller-style dances will relieve the Forties.

Jane Sullivan, project co-ordinator for the East Anglian

Tourist Board, says: "We have sent advance information to about 2,000 veterans, as well as being represented at their conventions in the United States."

Already nearly 1,000 ex-service men and their families have contacted us for more information

As better communications draw the county closer to the capital, a new problem has arisen

Suffolk has entered the decade facing a basic problem of growth: how to strike the right balance between environmental need and economic development.

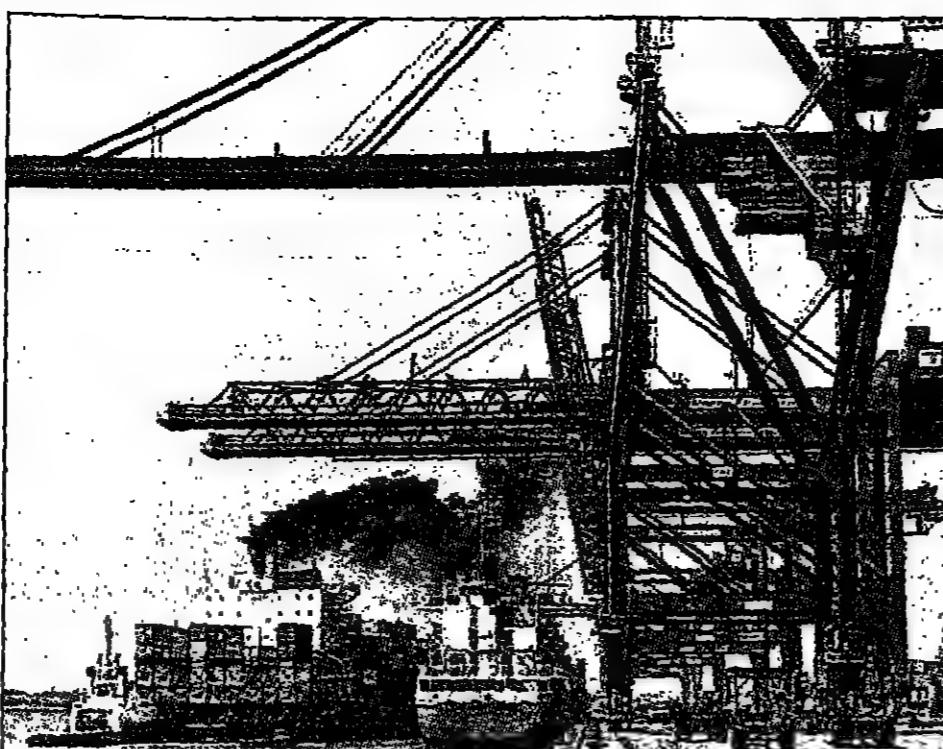
Unspoilt villages, open countryside and long stretches of empty shingle coastline make it one of Britain's most attractive counties.

Road and rail improvements have reduced a previous sense of isolation, but faster journey times to London, the M25 and the prospect of a third Thames crossing all draw it increasingly towards an overcrowded southeast.

Some think the shape of things to come can be seen already in overheated Surrey, Berkshire and Hampshire. Suffolk growth has been unostentatious by comparison, which suits the slow but shrewd East Anglian temperament. The trend is expected to continue with a population increasing from 604,000 in 1987 to 702,000 by 2000, part of the fastest-growing region in the country. Development pressures have produced a vocal green lobby which has been active in everything from water quality to Sizewell B.

The power station scheme has been opposed since the public enquiry in 1982 and the abandonment of a proposed Sizewell C station last November only encouraged the efforts of protest to point out the escalating costs and other alleged shortcomings of the current project.

Felixstowe faced a lengthy environmental battle to get its Bill for port expansion through parliament. It encroached on a bird preserve and one of the spin-offs was the creation of a new 208-acre



Trading post on the coast: Felixstowe is the biggest container port in the country

The dilemma of development

new reserve to make up for the lost habitat along the banks of the Orwell.

The estuary is becoming very busy. Sea Containers is draining 330 acres at Bathside Bay, Harwich, in a £120 million project. The company plans a mixed development of port-related facilities, business

park, hotel, marina and "heritage centre".

Colin Crawford, development manager for Sea Containers property, said there had been great European and Scandinavian interest in the scheme, which was bound to have an effect on the east Suffolk economy.

Growth pressures on several towns have been monitored at county hall in Ipswich and the view is that they can be managed advantageously. Don Ayre, assistant county planning officer, said Woodbridge had reached optimum growth and Felixstowe,

where there was a lot of estate development, "is beginning to show signs of strain."

"Development is getting near some high-quality agricultural land and an area of outstanding natural beauty. It is a prosperous and successful town and we believe it has just about reached its capacity."

One of the county's great characteristics is the variety of its smaller towns such as Aldeburgh, Southwold, Bungay, Framlingham, Beccles and Halesworth. "They are unique and need sensitive planning," Mr Ayre said. "They are not the sort of

places you want to see swamped by large estates.

"You have to try to keep the lid on development, I think we can do it. The district councils are keen to ensure they retain their character. We have to try to make sure that major growth takes place in the most suitable places."

Lowestoft may be a case in point. It has a high rate of unemployment, its economy is fragile and planners believe it needs environmentally upgrading. Things may be helped by improvements to the A12, an effective spine road through east Suffolk.

Builders like green sites and Mr Ayre agreed that the countryside was coming under pressure and needed protection.

"We have already seen what has happened in certain areas when the building industry has developed insensitively," he explained.

"One might say that mistakes have been made, but I think there is a strong will to improve the quality of development and of design. People are starting to dig their heels in and say we are not going to settle for third best."

Plans for quality development may come to pass in a settlement at Newbourn, a village east of Ipswich. Martlesham, an award-winning development near by, could provide a model to follow, although one of the issues around whether the settlement is actually built depends on development taking place on the Ipswich airport site.

The borough council owns the landing strip and has said it intends to close it in four years. Some planners feel the town should maintain an airport, if only for feeder routes to Norwich or Stansted. Others argue that housing is more important. It is a controversial issue and in an area in need of good housing something that brings a social argument into the growth equation.

JOHN SHAW

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Battle joined on the beaches

PICTURESQUE Aldeburgh, best known for its international music festival, could be equally well-known in future as a pioneer in the less glamorous field of flood protection.

The festival will draw thousands of music-lovers this month, but fine things are also happening along two kilometres of foreshore between Slaughden and Orford Ness (John Shaw writes).

A narrow shingle bank is all that protects the River Alde and thousands of acres of low-lying farmland from the North Sea. The area suffered badly during the 1953 floods. Defences put up then are now being replaced. The project by the National Rivers Authority and Dobbies and Partners, the civil engineers, will be a model for similar developments elsewhere in Britain. The second stage of the £4.9 million scheme should be complete by 1992. Incorporating factors such as environmental, recreational and tourist amenities into such a project needs careful planning and a willingness by people to pay the cost.

Mike Chid, head of new works at the rivers authority in Peterborough, says: "We liaised with local groups and individuals for more than two years before the scheme began."

"We asked them what they were willing to pay to keep the facilities at Aldeburgh. In terms of its environment and the amount it is used by visitors, recreational and tourist benefits were rated highly."

Computer models of the beach were developed and the results confirmed on a physical model to arrive at the most cost-effective design. The new sea wall has been planned to absorb rather than reflect wave energy, and to deter erosion.

Shingle already washed away will be replaced with 150,000 cubic metres obtained offshore. New groynes will control litoral drift and maintain the beaches. Much of the area has been designated heritage coast and also contains sites of special scientific interest.

There are several nature reserves, including the internationally known 1,945-acre site at Minsmere containing the second largest colony of avocets in Britain.

A few miles further up the coast is the £1.9 billion Sizewell B nuclear power station project. It will reach peak employment of about 3,500 people later this year or early in 1991.

To bring order, a district-wide local plan is being prepared, which will lay down development guidelines for the next five years.

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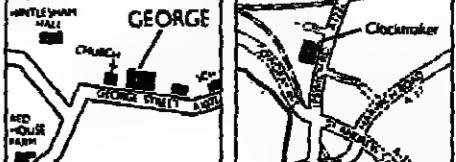
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BOXING

How a spell in jail was the making of a world contender

From SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT, LAS VEGAS

AFTER seven years, Henry Tillman gets his chance to prove he is still a better man than Mike Tyson. The two first met in the Olympic trials and box-off in 1984 and Tillman won on both occasions. They meet again at Caesars Palace here on Saturday.

"He knocked out everybody until he got me in the final and the trials," Tillman said yesterday. "I knew that when I touched heavyweight we would meet again."

Tillman is really not much more than a blown-up cruiserweight but he believes he will surprise those who think he is the soft first opponent for a former world champion making his way back after defeat. Putting his faith in Jesus Christ, he said: "There comes a time when someone can rise to the occasion."

Tillman could get lucky, but he is one of those fortunate people who come through adversity to land on their feet.

The best thing that happened to Tillman, who grew up in the streets of Watts, the black area of Los Angeles, was a spell in jail. Had he not gone to prison, he would not have learned boxing, not gone to the

Olympic Games to win a gold medal, not met his lovely and loving wife, Gina, Jesse Owens's grand-daughter, and would not have faced Tyson for £200,000.

He was picked up at a 19-year-old by the police after an altercation in a crap game during which he knocked out a player with a gun to reclaim money stolen from him. The court saw it as armed robbery. He faced on gloves for the first time in prison and four years later emerged to box in the Olympic trials. At the Los Angeles Games he won a heavyweight gold medal and lifted his greatest prize, a girl called Gina Hemphill, who may be remembered as the girl who carried the torch in the last lap round the stadium.

Three years later they were married. They live in Diamond Bar, California, and Gina works in Los Angeles as an associate producer with NBC. "She is a big part of my backbone," Tillman said. "She helped me find Jesus Christ."

Tillman defeated Willie DeWitt, of Canada, to win the gold medal and he feels that he can go all the way to join his more distinguished fellow gold medal winners, Evander Holyfield, Mark Breland,

Pernell Whitaker and Meldrick Taylor, who all won world titles. "This fight is just another step on the road to the world heavyweight championship," he said.

He was the first of the 1984 Olympic champions to win a professional title. He lifted the NABF cruiserweight title by knocking out Rashid Ali in one round but lost it a year later to Bert Cooper. Tillman had to lose 25lb before challenging Holyfield, his best friend, for the World Boxing Association cruiserweight title. Tillman was stopped in seven rounds.

He then moved up to heavyweight, but was knocked out by Dwayne Bonds here in the eighth round and, surprisingly, lost on points to his Olympic opponent, DeWitt. Tillman, aged 29, has a record of 20 wins in 24 contests.

As a true Christian, he is not the sort of success of his Olympic team-mates. "I am happy for my brothers to do well," he says. He is happy concentrating on qualifying for a real estate licence and working as director of the Community Youth Sports and Arts Foundation in Los Angeles, an organisation designed to provide an alternative to drugs and gangs.

His manager, Frank Maloney, has offered the Americans, Oscar Ocasio and Marvin Royer, a \$600 a month job to submit the names of his next prospective rival to the British Boxing Board of Control.

Maloney said: "The board are doing

Taking it on the chin: Lennox Lewis, the British heavyweight hope, who has dispatched 10 pushover opponents, has to submit the names of his next prospective rival to the British Boxing Board of Control.

His manager, Frank Maloney, has offered the Americans, Oscar Ocasio and Marvin Royer, a \$600 a month job to submit the names of his next prospective rival to the British Boxing Board of Control.

their job protecting British fight fans, who want to see a good-value fight."

The London-born Lewis, who won the Olympic super-heavyweight gold medal for his adopted Canada, gave a poor display in stopping Dan Murphy in six rounds in his latest bout after a contest in Canada on July 11. He expects to challenge for a title in the new season — either the British, European or Commonwealth championship.

Jim McDonnell (photographed with Lewis near Tower Bridge, London,

yesterday) will also appear on the Albert Hall show. He faces Pedro Gutierrez, of Argentina, for the vacant World Boxing Council International title.

Although the championship is for boxers rated outside the world's top ten, McDonnell, at No. 4, has been given dispensation by the WBC to contest the crown against the Argentinian. "My destiny is to be world champion and this is part of the process," McDonnell said. "The fight after this will be for a world title, all going well."

NETBALL

Australian side brings England down to earth

By LOUISE TAYLOR

ENGLAND have suffered after an encouraging start to the triangular tournament in Australia against the home country and New Zealand. After a 29-27 success against Western Australia in a warm-up match, England then came within five goals of inflicting a rare defeat on New Zealand, the world champions, in Perth.

Their eventual defeat by a margin of 42-38 was eminently respectable, considering that England have won only once and drawn twice in 31 encounters with the New Zealanders.

During the third quarter, England actually enjoyed a five-point lead. Liz Nicholl, the chief

goal shooter, Joan Bryan and Sheila Edwards, are in such terrific form."

However, this fine performance was followed by a 60-32 defeat by Australia, in Adelaide.

England, after a second game with New Zealand, travel to Melbourne next week for a further meeting with Australia, which will no doubt determine which of the sides meets New Zealand in the final.

SPORT FOR THE DISABLED

New venue is voted a great success

By JANE WYATT

QUENTIN Berriman, a leading epee fencer, stands out from the 26 fencers selected yesterday to represent Britain at the world championships in León (Lesley Drennan writes).

Berriman, aged 26, trains in Paris and this season reached the final of the Monal tournament. His points score is above that of Bill Gosbee, who usually earns the title of No. 1.

BRITISH TEAM: Miss Patsy Gobbo, J. Davis, N. Bell, D. McKenzie, P. Kay, J. Corlett, R. Gartside, P. McNeil, N. Corlett, N. Pocock, R. Greenaway, S. Barnes, I. Williams, R. Cohen, G. Fletcher, G. Kay, A. Zaffra, Wessner, P. Starcher, F. McDonald, J. Hodge, S. Mawby, J. Dwyer, P. Tordoff, L. Berry, J. Berry, M. Lloyd, N. Tugby, C. Read. Team manager: A. Jay. Coaches: Z. Woyciechowski, J. Hodge, J. Lowndes, G. Williams, G. Greenaway, L. McDonald, G. Paul, P. Casey, D. Berriman, D. Eden.

British weather and the proximity to the World Games in The Netherlands next month prevented a repeat of last year's spectacular results at the British Les Autres (BLASA) National Games in Birmingham.

Numbers were up, however, with more than 200 athletes taking part in events at the Fox Hollies leisure centre and the West Wiltshire shooting club.

At one time though, more than bad weather threatened the event, originally due to be held at the Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot, which was last year's venue. Tighter security measures and a clash of events meant BLASA had to withdraw in February.

On Sunday afternoon Hayden travelled to Oxford to take part in the BSAD/Trevor Sumner national golf championships, in

which he was placed third in the team event, partnered by Ross Pickering and Bob Miles.

Other excellent performances in the field events came from Dot Hyland and Doris Chambers, who broke records in the shot, and Edwin Thomas in the discus.

Cycling events were held for the first time in a national competition, with trials alongside able-bodied cyclists at tracks in Birmingham and Leicester. The winners of the three categories were Nigel Capewell, Vaughan Thomas and David Smith.

The international "Bright Blaue" classification system was introduced for the swimming competition. This is the system most likely to be used at the next Paralympics.

The results from the championships will be used to select preliminary Les Autres competitors for Barcelona in 1992.

During the third quarter, England actually enjoyed a five-point lead. Liz Nicholl, the chief

SPORTS LETTERS

Innocent supporters have been worst punished

From Dr David Lowry
Sir, Your leader, "Professional Foul", and Louise Taylor's analysis of the Swindon affair (June 9) both indicate that the financial irregularities perpetrated by the club since 1985 contributed beneficially towards its promotion from fourth division to first.

If this has been substantiated by the detailed Football League inquiry, then demotion to compensate other clubs for the unfair advantage gained by Swindon (and enjoyed by their supporters) would seem justified.

Nevertheless, some genuine football fans at Swindon may never have realised that the success was gained by cheating and now feel themselves censured. Similarly many of the players who made promotion to the first division for the first time in their and Swindon's history were undoubtedly innocent of any misdemeanours, and now are being punished for sins of others.

Might a compromise solution be to allow Swindon to take their place in the first division, but to penalise them by 30 points, which would almost certainly guarantee immediate relegation?

In this way the genuine players and fans would have the benefit of first division football for a season, but the club would be severely punished. I suggest a sum of £2 million, which would require them to sell some of their better players, and further assist their repositioning.

This is harsh, but less so than instant relegation to the third division and has the benefit of compromise for Swindon's genuine players and supporters.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID LOWRY,
9 Braunton, Woughton Park,
Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire.

From Mr Nigel Eady
Sir, The malfeasance admitted by Swindon Town and the possible advantages obtained notwithstanding, one cannot escape the feeling that judgement has been imposed upon the club with a vengeance, *pour encourager les autres*.

The timing of the inquiry after the play-off matches beggars belief. It is hard to believe the inquiry could not have been held earlier with as much information available. The indignity and humiliation heaped upon their thousands of supporters who made the trip to Wembley is an added insult.

If and when a scrutiny of the records of all members of the Football League, going back five years, has been completed, will some sense of proportion return to me?

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL EADY,
Church Farm, West Hanney,
Wantage, Oxfordshire.

From Mr D. J. Andrews
Sir, English sport has once again done it a great injustice. I was a neutral observer at the

second division play-off final at Wembley. I was witness to a team that could play football in a way to grace Ashton or Rome.

The supporters of Swindon Town must surely be devastated, and rightly so. The punishment imposed on the club was extreme, harsh and misguided. The directors involved should have been fined and players involved should have been suspended for a season. Instead, the innocent supporters were punished.

Players and directors come and go from clubs. Supporters do not and I believe that Swindon Town will not achieve first division status in this generation.

The punishment imposed will certainly teach Swindon a lesson. Try explaining that to those young supporters whose memories of Wembley little more than two weeks ago have suddenly become a distant fantasy.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. ANDREWS,
St Margaret Road,
St Margaret's, Twickenham, Middlesex.

From Mr Tony Rogers
Sir, It is ironic that, whilst much attention has been focused on the English football club abroad, the truly damaging hooliganism has quietly been conducted at home, at the Football Club.

Constantly urging players, clubs and supporters to uphold, in the highest moral sense, the rules of the game, they nevertheless, disregard football's long-standing traditions of fair play and loyalty.

Yours faithfully,

TONY ROGERS,
29 Locksfield Place,
Isle of Dogs, E14.

From Mr Martin D. Leech
Sir, As a result of financial misdemeanours by Swindon Town officials, supporters of the club are to be severely punished by seeing them relegated to the third division. In 1985 Liverpool fans went on the rampage at the Heseltine stadium in Belgium, resulting in the death of a young Juventus fan. Despite the there was no call at the time for a ban on the entry of Liverpool to the third division, or expulsion from the League. Indeed it was the fans of other English clubs who were punished by the resulting ban on English clubs appearing in Europe.

Is this yet another case of the small clubs being bullied by the officials who run our football while the bigger clubs get off more lightly?

Yours,

MARTIN D. LEECH,
10 Branton Hill Lane,
Aldridge,
Walsall, West Midlands.

From Mr James Goddard
Sir, I cannot help but feel that the Football League's punishment of Swindon carries with it more than a little of the League's guilt for not having set its own house in order earlier. I refer to

the shameful way that the League has allowed the game in this country to proceed to the point where money now runs the game at the expense of all that was once good in what was once a game but is now a business. By this I would point to the following:

1. the way that home teams now retain their own gate money

2. the way that the League has sold itself to the television companies in an increasingly sordid manner each year

3. (and this seems the worst of all) the way in which poor standards of sportsmanship and increasing gamesmanship have been allowed to take over the game. Watching the recent return of the 1986 World Cup final I was struck by both the sheer pace of the game and the almost total lack of time-wasting and cheating. By not adhering to such hard lines as empowering referees to send off players for committing the "professional foul" the League has condoned and encouraged cheating.

Is this extreme punishment, and I am not denying that some form of punishment was required, just a case of too much too late and does the League not recognise any degree of hypocrisy here?

Let any degree of vested

interest be inferred I am a West Ham fan who now lives in Swindon.

Yours faithfully,

JAMES GODDARD,
130 Goddard Avenue,
Old Town, Swindon, Wiltshire.

From Mr Giles P. T. Walker
Sir, Great efforts have been made by the minister for sport to prevent British football from adding further insult to the injured reputation of our football supporters during the World Cup, and his request for restrictions on the sale of alcohol on match days has been welcomed. These clubs were given little, if any, time in which to rectify their shortcomings. The Football League continues, however, to offer sanctuary to Chester City, a team without any facilities for the forthcoming season.

In penalising Swindon Town supporters for the failings of their club's directors and officials the Football League have shown a vindictive level of disdain toward those, who ultimately, are their *raison d'être*.

There existed ample scope to punish financial misdemeanours in ways other than to insult and alienate the true supporter.

Only last week the Football Association conspired, at the highest level, to deliberately influence the outcome of a match. Their justification in ordering the England players to score a goal against themselves, so as to gain the co-operation of potential troublemakers in Italy, does not alter the fact that they were in conflict with their own regulations regarding the fixing of matches.

When the

Dulwich lament
From Mr Reginald Foster
Sir, Amidst the triumphs and disappointments of the last English season, have sympathy for Dulwich Hamlet, relegated from the Vauxhall League pre-mier division.

In the golden years of amateur football, before and after 1914-18 was Dulwich, the Liverpool of the era, with a following that justified a special train to outlying places — like Wimbledon, in their Isthmian League days.

When great teams from the north, Bishop Auckland, Crook Town and others, came south for Amateur Cup matches

crowds of 3,000-4,000 were attracted. The once splendid Champion Hill ground had 40,000 for an amateur international with Scotland, such was the pull of amateur football at that time.

Like many clubs Dulwich had

small beginnings, for the old

boys of Dulwich Hamlet school.

Let us hope that success will return. Many years ago it was my ambition to see them in a Wembley Amateur Cup final. I will still see now for the FA Trophy — but they will have to be quick about it.

Yours faithfully,

REGINALD FOSTER,
4 Foxholes Cottages, Foscol, E. Sussex.

Prohibited viewing
From Mr Robin E. H. Bailey
Sir, As I have to spend my day in an office, working for my living, I am unable to watch the Test match on television during the day.

For the same reason, I am

unable to watch the edited highlights of the day's play, thoughtfully broadcast by the BBC shortly after midday.

Yours etc,

ROBIN E. H. BAILEY,
4 Foxholes Cottages, Foscol, E. Sussex.

Sports Letters may be sent

by fax to 071-782 5046

Board wants tougher rivals for Lewis

ANTHONY PHEARS



A would-be Italian werewolf in London

I ENVY werewolves. At least, they get to come alive every full moon. As a supporter of the Italian national football side, I have to wait four years before my eyes start to do strange things and my throat makes funny noises.

For 50 years, I have lived a thousand miles and more from the home of my father and not one season watching English football has helped to ease the pain of not being a spectator on Italian soil. I stare with bemusement at the pedestrian game English footballers produce and find myself inevitably cheering the opposition.

But this state of affairs has given me the chance to look dispassionately at the English game, which is the only way you can look at players running hell for leather,

BARRY FANTONI, writer and cartoonist, describes the delicious agony of being an Italian football fanatic trapped on the terraces of England

with less skill than an Italian kicking a tin can in poverty-stricken Naples.

English football is now as imaginative as a Rotarian after-dinner speech and as inspiring as a tube strike. I have tried in vain to name an English world-class player since the days of Bobby Charlton and, with the exception of Peter Shilton, I have had no joy. The number of Italian masochists would fill the Albert Hall.

Of the present squad, Vialli and

Baresi are both world class, with skills and vision unseen in present English players.

Italians to a man have three loves; beautiful women, beautiful cars and, when played as only they can, beautiful football. Asked for an order of priority, football would come top in almost every case. More than anything else, Italian football embodies a quality that the Italians have in abundance — style.

What other nation could produce a mass-market car with the excitement of an Alfa Romeo, or create fashions that have the simple elegance of Giorgio Armani? In England I am forced to pay through the nose for my Alfa and Armani, and I can just accept it.

What I find tough is the seemingly endless wait for a glimpse of

the Italian side in the flesh. When they do come, as they did earlier in the year and drew with England after being disallowed a perfectly good goal, I devour each move, each subtle run, each clever dummy as if it was the last slice of tiramisu. But the World Cup is an eight-course feast and I do not miss a morsel.

It might be risking an entry in "Colombianballs" to say that the Brazilians produce the greatest footballers but the Italians produce the greatest football. What makes an Italian footballer great is mainly his environment.

In a sense, he is born to succeed. Italian boys are adored from birth. Their mothers lavish praise on them, if for nothing else than their moody good looks. A near-perfect

climate and an ideal diet — only now are athletes being made aware of the help pasta provides in terms of valuable carbohydrate — gives an Italian footballer an edge.

Italian men are at ease with themselves, on and off the park. Too much money too soon, and all the problems it brings, have frequently ruined promising young players, but seldom Italians. They feel destined to be rich and adored, and the whiff of scandal that goes hand in glove with Italian football merely adds an important element of danger.

This is all translated into what the national side does on the pitch. No other team can play with such breathtaking refinement or cold brutality. It is as if every Italian

footballer is coached by a combination of Fellini and a hit-man from the Mafia.

When an Italian gets the ball something almost sinister surrounds him; it is as if, if the deal can't be done straight, then it will be done underhand. My father never paid for anything in his life. An IOU was what he dealt with, and that's another way to view Italian football.

I consider myself an Italian supporter in all but one respect. Whereas there will be much moaning and gnashing of teeth if Italy do not win the World Cup I will more or less expect it. One of the many disadvantages of living in England and being surrounded by her sporting endeavours is I have grown to expect defeat.



WORLD CUP NOTEBOOK

Politicians vote with their sets

POLITICIANS are often accused of being detached from the people they represent, but even they are not immune to events in Italy. When Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary, met Gerry Collins, the Irish foreign minister, they spent their evening watching the match from Cagliari.

Although Mrs Thatcher has apparently been frightened off World Cup since being kissed by Kevin Keegan a couple of years ago, the South American leaders eagerly embrace the football fervour of their populations. President Fernando Collor de Mello, of Brazil, is writing on the Cup for a newspaper, and President Menem, of Argentina, is rushing out of meetings to catch glimpses of the matches on a giant television screen installed a few yards from his office. This, after both men travelled to Italy to watch their countries play their opening matches.

Vows to diet

STEAK and chips is off the menu for the England players in Sardinia, but they have been tempted by the local delights. Paul Parker admits he has cut down after his initial glutony on pizza and spaghetti. "If you stay at the table you're just looking at it and picking off other people's plates. So I'd sooner get away," he said.

On the football front, the only news was that Gillespie had continued to make slow progress in his attempt to fit face Sweden on Saturday.

Roxburgh denies that his players broke drinks ban

From RODDY FORSYTHE, RAPALLO

SECURITY plain-clothed police men.

The second point is that all of them have to be in their rooms by the time the staff make their regular check. When the rooms were checked at the usual time everyone was in. In third, in terms of photographs, our lads have been posing for everybody who asks for it. The fourth is that of standing with a bunch of supporters holding mugs, scarves, glasses, or whatever people give them. As you story goes it goes on endlessly.

"As far as drink goes, in Malta we asked our lads not to drink because of the problems with dehydration. We've also stated, to the press people as well, that the rule no longer applies and that it is standard practice after any match to let players have a drink if they want one. So there is no ban for anybody to break because of the problems with dehydration.

Needless to say, since the events in Argentina in 1978, when the Scottish World Cup party was the focus of a number of lavishly adorned stories, several of them with only the most tenuous basis in fact, Scotland players have been cautioned to be on their guard least comparatively innocent situations are rendered as serious infractions.

Yesterday, Roxburgh took

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members of his squad. "First of

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Speedy Mac's Imp to show way

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

THE Newmarket-based trainer Bill O'Gorman has already worked wonders this season by winning 10 races with *Timeless Times*, who cost only \$15,000 when he sold in the United States as a yearling.

Today at Newbury, it should be the turn of Mac's Imp, another of his cheap American purchases, to show just what a bargain he is proving, having been snapped up for \$23,000.

Mac's Imp, who has been entered for the Coventry Stakes and the Norfolk Stakes at Royal Ascot next week, warms up for his chosen objective by contesting the Kingscire Stakes this afternoon.

When winning at New-

market and later at Goodwood, he looked the fastest of his age group seen this year. Today, the pick of his opponents would appear to be the well-named *Time Gentlemen* (by *Night Shift* or *Last Orders*), who made such a pleasing debut at Goodwood 13 days ago. However, I will be surprised if he can match strides with Mac's Imp who looked very fast indeed when beating *Les Amazaux* *Nuggets* by eight lengths last time.

With one eye on Royal Ascot, it will also be interesting to watch the *Kennett Maiden Stakes* which saw that fast colt *Dayjur* on his way 12 months ago. This time I am encouraged reports of Alex Scott's newcomer *Anjiz*, who was also entered for the Kingscire Stakes. A three-

parts brother to the same stable's smart sprinter *Nabeel Dancer*, *Anjiz* is another who holds an engagement in the Coventry Stakes.

On his debut he will be fully tested by *Prospective Ruler*, who shaped nicely enough in the race won by *Halsham* at Newmarket four weeks ago.

Today's meeting on the Berkshire track can begin with *Hymn Of Harlech* winning the Cork Gally Apprentice Handicap for the second time in succession. At Lingfield 12 days ago, he was only just pipped by the useful *Bournville*.

Song Of Sixpence, my selection for the Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte Summer Handicap, has already won a race for women riders on the course this season. Last time out he was still in with a

chance of beating the subsequent Epsom winner *Tide-mark* at Newcastle when he slipped badly on the final bend and nearly fell. As he was then allowed to come home in his own time in fourth place, he deserves another chance.

Twelve months ago, Walter Swinburn rode the winner of the Kenneth Robertson Handicap for Michael Stoute. Now he can win the same prize for Stoute's long-time assistant James Fanshaw on *Black Sapphire*, who by no means harshly handicapped considering that he has scored twice already at Salisbury and Warwick, for the first-season trainee.

Passite, who was runner-up to *Sacred Number* on his last visit to the track, is taken to go one better in the Childrey Maiden Stakes, while the *Maiden Stakes*, which is

Sandown first time out.

NEWBURY

Selections

By Mandarin

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.00 <i>Hymn Of Harlech</i> .	2.00
3.00 <i>Song Of Sixpence</i> .	3.00 <i>Take One</i> .
3.30 <i>Mac's Imp</i> .	3.30 <i>Mac's Imp</i> .
4.00 <i>Land Alar</i> .	4.00 <i>Nake Bistraya</i> .
4.30 <i>Pastiso</i> .	4.30 <i>Pale Wine</i> .
5.00 <i>Black Sapphire</i> .	5.00 <i>Black Sapphire</i> .

By Michael Seely

3.30 *Mac's Imp*. 4.30 *Pale Wine*. 5.00 *BLACK SAPPHIRE* (nap).

Going: good to firm

SIS Draw: high numbers have a slight advantage up to 1m straight

2.0 CORK GALLY APPRENTICE HANDICAP (23,785; 1m) (10 runners)

101 (10) 5265-49 VITALITY 28 (C/G) (The Queen) 1 bedding 4-9-11	G McGrath (2)
102 (3) 4580-35 HODDIE LADY 28 (D/F) (T Washington) G Balding 6-8-10	T Parfitt (2)
103 (1) 4580-35 HODDIE LADY 28 (D/F) (T Washington) G Balding 6-8-10	L Carter (2)
104 (2) 4582-32 HYMNS OF HARLECH 12 (FLD) (D/C) (T Swaine) 7-8-5	J Hernan (2)
105 (6) 1-7 BANDITS TREASURE 163 (F) (Blaze) 1 Thomson 3-8-7	L Hernan (2)
106 (7) 0610-30 KEEP YOUR WORD 10 (Miss E Swan) G 4-8-3	M Hester (2)
107 (34) 3422000- D'ALSTYAN 16 (F) (D Allen) R Harmon 4-8-0	D Glubb (2)
108 (2) 221105 VALIANT RED 33 (F) (Swaine) D Murray 4-7-8	D O'Farrell (2)
109 (1) 4580-35 MONKEY LOVER 10 (J Bedford) S Costello 3-7-7	M Scott (2)
110 (2) 4580-35 MONKEY LOVER 10 (J Bedford) S Costello 3-7-7	F Norton (2)

Long: *Monks* 7-2.BETTING: 3-1 *Fact Ruler*, 9-2 *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

1988: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

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2001: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2002: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2003: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2004: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2005: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2006: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2007: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2008: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2009: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2010: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2011: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2012: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 *Stake's Treasure*, 7-1 *Hymn Of Harlech*, 8-1 *Exhaust Man*, 10-1 *Valent Red*, 1-1 *Hooray Lady*, 16-1 others.

2013: HYMNS OF HARLECH 6-8-12 A Proctor (2) D Elsworth 12 ran

FORM FOCUS: *Wistey*, 6-1 <i

US Open and Masters champions stare down the barrel of history at Medinah

Chicago field fears Faldo massacre

From MITCHELL PLATT
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
CHICAGO

NICK Faldo is not an overwhelming favourite for the ninetieth United States Open, which starts here today at the Medinah country club, but there can be no question that on the outskirts of this infamous city he commands as much respect from his peers as did Al Capone in gangsterland.

The manner in which he won the Masters for a second successive time provided ample evidence of his increasing maturity in a sport that defines its champions not simply in terms of skill but also by their integrity. Faldo is looked upon as the consummate professional on and off the fairways.

Tom Watson, the winner of eight major championships, has over the years been compelled to compare one protagonist with another, and his portrayal of Faldo substantiated the belief that this summer of sporting conflict might be best remembered for the grand slam of golf being completed.

"Nick Faldo has learned

how to play golf," Watson said. "But he has also, and most importantly, learned how to believe in himself. That means that everything else is much easier, because when Faldo goes out to play, all he is fighting is the course. He is right up there at the top now. He is playing great golf and he is very confident."

So consumed is Faldo by the prospect of indefinitely writing his name in the record books that he might subconsciously have lost interest in recent tournaments. For that reason his indifferent form since Augusta is best forgotten. He is a player for the big occasion. He will view the task of becoming the first Briton to win the US Open since Tony Jacklin in 1970 as only another obstacle to overcome if he is to keep alive the dream of winning all four major championships in one year.

"You have to favour Nick doing it purely because of the way in which he won at Augusta," Jacklin said. "He was so in command there when it mattered most on the closing stretch. At the US Open you've got to be positive from the start, you've got to

beat to your game plan."

"It's not so much entertaining the public — though that happens — anyway — but conquering the test set by the United States Golf Association. No one right now is better at doing all that than Nick Faldo. He is a man at the prime of his life and at the top of his form. Nick will need a good start, because you need to feel comfortable and not too many win US Opens if they are three over after five holes, but I suspect if he does that then he will be the man to beat."

Curtis Strange is the obvious rival to Faldo, even with the likes of Severiano Ballesteros, Greg Norman and Payne Stewart lurking in the wings, if only because Strange, too, is staring history in the face. The American is less likely to be shaken than most by the prospect of emulating Willie Anderson (1903-04-05) by winning three US Open championships in succession.

"There is a knot in my stomach, sure, but then there should be," Strange said. "It's been an eye opener to see the public's awareness of what is going on. I've done everything possible to ensure that I peak this week. I'll have one chance in my life to win three in a row; I mean to give it my absolute best shot."

The US Open has more often than not provided a platform for the experienced campaigners to advertise their artistry, as emphasised by the victories of Watson (1982), Larry Nelson (1983), Andy North (1985) and Ray Floyd (1987) before Strange took command. It might be asking too much of Jack Nicklaus, in spite of his splendid success last weekend in the Senior Tournament Players' Championship with a 27-under-par aggregate, to win the title for a fifth time, although Watson believes that to ignore Nicklaus would be tempting fate.

"That wasn't an individual score he won with on Sunday; it was a team score," Watson said. "I think Jack is right in

there with a chance and I see no reason why I shouldn't be either. For four years my putting has been out of whack, which is why I haven't been winning, but I have it back now."

The British challenge for this title has rarely been stronger, with Mark James, Sandy Lyle, Ronan Rafferty and Ian Woosnam competing alongside Ryder Cup colleagues in Bernhard Langer, José-Maria Olazábal and Ballesteros.

This title has so far eluded Ballesteros, although, like Faldo and Strange, Norman and Watson, he has the character and the class to conquer one of the most demanding courses in the world.

Strange, perhaps, provided the best summing-up. "The No. 1 priority is to hit it straight," he said. "Then you've got to be sharp with your irons. You've got to be mentally tough. And you've got to make a bunch of putts. Other than that it's a piece of cake."

BETTING (Odds): 8-1: Faldo, Norman, Strange, 14-1: Strange, 15-1: Faldo, 16-1: Ballesteros, 28-1: Couples, Olazábal, 28-1: Watson, 33-1: Woosnam, Langer, 45-1: Lyle, Rafferty, 50-1: James.

FRANK BRADFORD

Lifeline for Mashego amid visa snares

By JOHN HENNESSY

THE sponsors of the Wang Four Stars tournament at Moor Park from today until Sunday have thrown a lifeline to a player who had earlier been denied his chance in ironical political circumstances.

John Mashego is a South African and, as such, was refused the visa he required to take part in the European Tour qualifying school at La Manga in December and so gain his players' card.

There was nothing unusual in that, given Spain's opposition to apartheid, except that Mashego is black, living in Soweto, Johannesburg. A policy designed to give support to the non-white in general in South Africa, had operated against one of them in particular. The school moves to Montpellier, France, this year, which means that Mashego will have another chance to secure his card.

In the meantime, he tees off this afternoon in fulfillment of an undertaking Wang gave last year to Louis Martin, a South African promoter and entrepreneur, that an invitation would be extended to the lead-

ing black player in the South African order of merit.

By a happy chance, he was Mashego, one of Martin's own clients, placed 38th in the money list.

Mashego came to golf late, perhaps inevitably for a black South African, and is now 39.

He graduated to the game from a variety of clerical jobs in a golf club.

This gave him ample opportunities for trying his hand in practice, at first with two clubs, a five-iron and two-wood.

After a year he joined a club on Monday membership at £5 a month and began to play competitively, with a second-hand set of clubs provided by his brother.

His attitude was so extraordinary that the first card he headed in over the next two months proclaimed him a four-handicap player. Then he roared up the ladder.

"After another month I was down to two," he said. "A month later I was scratch and a month after that plus two." This without ever having had a lesson.

In 1981 he turned pro-

fessional at the advanced age of 29, but played in competitions for only one year. "I realize I wasn't good enough," he says. "So I spent three years working on my game." He was supported by an understanding and generous girlfriend.

Now he is commercially sponsored by Continental Tyres and helps other blacks even to the extent of lending them some of his clubs. "I'm not worried about them misusing them," he said.

If he suffers from any inferiority complex, it does not show. On a course he likens to many in the Durban area, he declared yesterday: "I'm hitting the ball as well as the others and anything can happen. I'm not here to enjoy myself. I'm here to win."

If that smacks of *folie de grandeur*, I offer the postscript that I saw him play five holes in practice yesterday. They yielded two birdies and three pars.

The Wang tournament, under the star patronage of Terry Wogan, Ronnie Corbett, Henry Cooper and Jimmy Tarbuck, offers £25,000 in prize-money. £36,500 to the winner.

LEADING SCORES: 132: K. Trimble, 65; 66: L. Martin, 67, 69, 137; M. Jones, 68, 69; 138: J. Oates, 68, 70; M. Thomas, 68, 70; 139: D. Curry, 72, 67; M. Woosnam, 71, 72; 140: N. Brierley, 70, 70; P. Harrison, 71, 68; 141: P. Finch, 70, 70; K. Valentine, 69, 72; N. Faldo, 70, 70; 142: D. Amor, 69, 72; S. Watson, 71, 72; 143: S. Robertson, 72, 68, 73; J. Higgins, 69, 73; M. Tumcliffe, 71, 69; J. Petrie, 73, 66; J. Cheeseman, 71, 71.

Trimble's score brings him a birthday reward

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

KEN Trimble, from Australia, who is 39 today, lined up a £3,200 birthday present for himself when he equalled the course record of 63 in the second round of the PGA European Challenge Tour event at Bolton Old Links yesterday.

Trimble, who has three times performed in big Australian tournaments, had an aggregate of 133, nine under par, and moves into today's final two rounds three strokes clear of Jon Lomas, from Shropshire, leader of the first round.

Over the outward half, his last

nine holes, the Sydney golfer edged away from his challengers. A three-putt to 20 feet gave him an eagle three at the ninth and hole. Then Trimble birdied pairs of two and 15 feet for birdies at the eighth and ninth, his final two holes.

Today he is 10 under par, his attitude was so extraordinary that the first card he headed in over the next two months proclaimed him a four-handicap player. Then he roared up the ladder.

"After another month I was down to two," he said. "A month later I was scratch and a month after that plus two." This without ever having had a lesson.

In 1981 he turned pro-

essional at the advanced age of 29, but played in competitions for only one year. "I realize I wasn't good enough," he says. "So I spent three years working on my game." He was supported by an understanding and generous girlfriend.

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If that smacks of *folie de grandeur*, I offer the postscript that I saw him play five holes in practice yesterday. They yielded two birdies and three pars.

Trimble, who is 39 and the oldest player in the field, will be eyeing the special prize of £1,000 for the first competitor whose score beats his age.

Conwy conquers floods

THIS week the Caernarfonshire club at Conwy has hosted the Open one-armed championship, with entrants from Germany, the United States, France, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the four home countries (Michael Stevenson writes).

It is Conwy's centenary year and, apart from problems with the cold winds and drought, the sea inundated much of the course during the Towns floods.

It is typical of the club that, despite predictable problems with the fairways, there was no thought of cancelling their in-

vitation to the society of one-armed golfers.

Today and tomorrow the 16 qualifiers from the 45 entrants will begin the knockout stage, with the final held tomorrow at 2pm. It should be a brave man who would bet against the winner, Andy Thomson, of

Thorpe Hall, who had a net 71 in his first qualifying round.

Brian Waites, of Notts, who recently reached the qualifying age of 50, could not have wished for a better course on which to make his debut, having begun his career as a golf professional at Thorpe Hall, who had a net 71 in his first qualifying round.

The competitors are full of praise for the course, which is a par-68 and 6,159 yards long. It is in excellent condition, despite the recent dry weather, and looks set to produce some low scoring.

Frederick Went, who is 83 and the oldest player in the field, will be eyeing the special prize of £1,000 for the first competitor whose score beats his age.

With 64 players qualifying from 102 starters, it seemed to some observers that the stroke-

play stage was rendered virtually redundant, but Jill Thomson, the Curtis Cup captain, welcomed the change. "There was no margin for error with only 32 to qualify," Thornhill said. She rejected the suggestion that the championship should revert to matchplay from the beginning, pointing out that people could have a long journey for the sake of a few holes.

Thornhill had reason to remember one year when the British Open was the all matchplay, was at St Andrews, and she found herself drawn against Marley Spearman, then all-conquering, in the first round. "Nobody beat Marley," Thornhill said, "and I thought I'm not going all that way for nothing" and withdrew. Then I discovered, too late, that Marley had also pulled out."

Then, despite some short bowing from Gray, Twose battled extremely bravely for his unbeaten 36 to steer his side home.

Geoff Cook, Northamptonshire's longest-serving captain this century, has announced his retirement from first-class cricket at the end of the season.

Surtees put bat into male 212 for nine from 55 overs with the help of Ward's 100, the most runs by a batsman in a season from 1981 to 1989.

The MCC's committee has asked Lieutenant-Colonel John Stephenson, the secretary, to defer his retirement for two years. He would have left in 1990 at the end of next year but he will now stay until September 1993.

The MCC's secretary fulfills the same job for the International Cricket Council and Stephenson has had an arduous term of office in both roles since he succeeded Jack Bailey three years ago. His retirement will ensure continuity at a busy time for both organisations and will be welcomed throughout the game.

By RICHARD STREETON

MCC is to set up a working party to study the implications of allowing women members of Middlesex to use the Lord's pavilion during the county's matches at the ground. A report will be made next May to the annual meeting, which could rule that the 18,000 members should decide the issue by postal ballot.

Middlesex are MCC tenants at Lord's, which is the only ground in English cricket where the pavilion is restricted to men only during play. Middlesex's annual meeting last month decided that MCC should be asked to change this.

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By RICHARD STREETON

CRICKET

SECOND XI CRICKET by SIMON WILDE

SEVERAL batsmen of whom

great things are, or once were,

expected have been recently

parading their talents in the

relative solitude of their second XIs.

John Crawley, who is to tread the path taken by Michael Atherton by going up to Cambridge University from Manchester Grammar School, scored his second Rapid Cricketline championship century at Lancaster in 1989.

Another championship century-maker was Kevin Sharp, of Yorkshire, hailed as a future England player soon after making his county debut 14 years ago. Sharp, who scored an unbeaten double-century

against Gloucestershire two weeks ago, took 141 of Glamorgan at Headington.

Mark Alleyne, of Gloucestershire, who may yet live up to his early promise — as the age of 18 he was the youngest player to score a first-class hundred for the county — last week struck 120 not out and 34 not out against Northamptonshire.

Another player to reach three figures was Andrew Smith, aged 21, for Surrey against Middlesex in the one-day Sainsbury Trophy on Tuesday. He is the son of Bill Smith, the former Surrey opening batsman.

On the same day, Yorkshire lost their unbeaten record this season, going down by eight wickets to Derbyshire at Chesterfield.

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All the parts are working but the McEnroe tennis machine needs oiling

Exile struggles to get ahead

By ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

JOHN McEnroe's long awaited return to tennis, and to Queen's Club, nearly ended in tears in the second round yesterday. McEnroe who had not played a match for nearly four months because of a shoulder injury and lack of motivation, found his touch just in time to beat Ramesh Krishnan, the gentle Indian, 4-6 6-4 6-2, but he was a point away from going 5-1 down in the second set. That is how close it was. A more steely fellow than Krishnan would surely have ended McEnroe's comeback there and then.

"I just need to play matches. I played very rarely for a couple of months and a bit more over the last couple of weeks, but the fact that I am here is the main thing," said McEnroe.

It was hardly the sort of day McEnroe would have wanted to end his self-imposed exile since February 21. The skies were grey, the air cold and the court a little damp. The only consolation was that Krishnan plays a similar game to McEnroe, full of delicate angles and deft volleys. He even smashes with gentility.

When, having taken the first set, Krishnan had already broken to lead 3-0 in the second, it seemed that McEnroe was one push away from the horizontal. Krishnan had points for 4-0, 5-1 and 5-2 as McEnroe struggled to find rhythm on his serve and his passing shots. He served seven double faults in all. When he finally got the serve right, the volley was wayward; if those two worked, the passing shot hit the top of the net. There was nothing dramatically wrong with the machine, just a few parts which needed oil.

At 4-2 and 40-15, Krishnan was on the verge of his first victory against McEnroe in nine meetings. But he let those two points slip, served a double fault to give McEnroe a break point, which he took with a vintage backhand pass.



Comeback match: McEnroe beating Ramesh Krishnan at Queen's yesterday

Blow as sponsors pull out

By ANDREW LONGMORE

THE cancellation of the Silk Cut championships at Wembury, announced earlier this week, leaves the British calendar decidedly bare. After the grass-court season, which effectively ends with the Wimbledon final, there is now no international men's singles event in Britain. In West Germany, there were seven men's events scheduled for 1990, including the ATP Tour finals and the Grand Slam Cup.

"It is very disappointing," said Owen, the tournament director and special events manager for the sponsors, Gaffillair, said. "We have tried hard to keep it. But it's not a good week because it's so close to the ATP finals and we have not been able to get the top players to commit to the event. We needed two out of the top ten. Without them you cannot attract co-sponsors or open the box office."

Owen's spiralling costs and the increasing demands of players for the decision to pull out of the event after 14 years. The sponsors wanted initially to

have a \$1m championship series event, but their request was refused by the Association of Tour Professionals. Instead, they were granted a world series event, for which the players were allowed to ask for appearance fees.

"It's been open season for them," Owen said. "The players are getting too greedy... To get anyone ranked from six to 30 you have to pay anywhere between \$30,000 and \$100,000."

They have quadrupled their earning potential and they still won't commit to the tournament. Some countries can't bear that in Britain, we can't."

Owen said that other tournament directors are equally concerned.

People who have established tournaments are finding that they are paying more for it than what they had before," he said.

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FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL: Texas Rangers 5, Oakland Athletics 5; New York Yankees 5, Boston Red Sox 5; Atlanta Braves 5 (10), Cleveland Indians 7, Detroit Tigers 3; Toronto Blue Jays 5, Minnesota Twins 5; San Francisco Giants 5, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; California Angels 3; Kansas City Royals 5, Seattle Mariners 2.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York 19, Boston 12; Atlanta 12; Detroit 12; Philadelphia 10; Toronto 7, Montreal 6; Los Angeles 10; Chicago 9; Dallas 8; Portland 7; Pittsburgh 8; San Antonio 7; San Diego 2; San Francisco 7, Golden State 5.

WILD CARD (Great Britain unless specified): Mark Casy, N Brown, A Casper, M Pashley, J Turner, P Cash (Aus); M Woodford (Aus); Women's: J Dunn, S Gomer, B Borneo, S Smith, A Simpkin, C Wood, R Jordan (US).

IN BRIEF

Singh must withdraw

SOMA Singh of Soutbgate, is out of the Great Britain hockey squad for the BMW Cup tournament in Amsterdam on Saturday because of a back injury, and is replaced by Jon Potter, the Hounslow captain.

Hodges signs

Glyn Hodges, the Watford and Wales wing, has joined Crystal Palace, in preference to Real Sociedad. A tribunal will settle the fee.

Soviets sail

San Diego (Reuter) — Entries for the 1992 America's Cup yacht race rose to 21 with the acceptance of Leningrad Yacht Club.

Pistons again

Portland, Oregon (AFP) — Detroit Pistons beat Portland Trail Blazers 112-109 to take a 3-1 lead in the NBA finals.

Asia play host

KUALA Lumpur (AFP) — Malaysia will host the tenth Asian table tennis championships here from December 5 to 12 after Jordan withdrew.

Optimism kindled by three defeats

By BARRY WOOD

DEFEATS suffered by Sara Gomer, Jo Durie and Julie Salmon in the second round of the Dow Classic at Edgbaston yesterday failed to dampen an overall feeling of optimism in the British camp.

There is some justification for that. We saw a resurgent Gomer, an improved Durie and a tenacious fighter in Salmon. Their positive attitudes paint a brighter picture than seen for some time.

Following a year beset by health problems, Gomer admits she remains several months away from playing her best. In January she thought old age was creeping up and she considered retiring. Concerned, she underwent a fitness test and collapsed in the warm-up. A virus, now banished, was to blame.

The crisis may have made her stronger, and has certainly allowed her the opportunity to reassess herself. Guided by her coach, Andy Durham, she has added an aggressive dimension to her game.

Her 3-6, 6-3, 6-4 defeat by Belinda Cordwell was a narrow one, and was the result of a single break of serve in each set. Gomer was broken to love in the third, a consequence, she admitted, of too little match practice since.

Durie is confident enough in her own abilities to predict that she will be able to play for perhaps a further five years (she is 30 next month). Perhaps she draws inspiration from Betsy Nagel, who is 33 and who defeated her 7-5, 6-2, largely because she had a superior

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fitness.

Salmon, in her first tournament, is finding that they are paying more for it than what they had before," he said.

People who have established tournaments are finding that they are paying more for it than what they had before," he said.

Wembury, in the middle of November, might not have been the mecca of tennis. But no one can argue with the quality of champion the Silk Cut championship, formerly the Benson and Hedges, has produced over the years. Connors, Borg, McEnroe and Lendl have all been champions.

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